

Hafa Adai!

What now on the plan to build a veterans cemetery on Rota? **PAGE 2**

Traffic lights to be installed at Quartermaster and Beach Road corner. **PAGE 3**

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## Jeju Air eyes mid-July to resume flights to Saipan

By BEA CABRERA  
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CORRESPONDENT

Jeju Air, a South Korean airline, plans to resume its Incheon-Saipan route on July 10, in conjunction with the CNMI's effort to jumpstart its economy by opening its doors to South Korean

» **'Will only fly fully vaccinated tourists'**

tourists under its Tourism Investment Program, or TRIP.

"Jeju Air has been approved by the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transportation of Korea to fly into the CNMI in anticipation of their participation in the TRIP program. The plan right now is to have weekly regularly scheduled flights, which

See JEJU on Page 4



File photo shows the severely burned canoe and canoe house after a fire that broke out early Monday morning.

JOSHUA SANTOS

## Canoe fire prompts talks of security, need for fence

By JOSHUA SANTOS  
joshua\_santos@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The fire that broke out at the canoe house near West Coast Restaurant (formerly Naked Fish Bar and Grill) in Su-supe early Monday morning prompted those involved in the project and the community alike to express disappointment with the lack of security in the area and to highlight the need for it.

At the very least, the area around the canoe house needs to have a fence and Community and Cultural Affairs Secretary Joseph P. DeLeon Guerrero has reopened discussion on this with the Department of Public Lands, detailing his

See CANOE on Page 4

## Ada sets goal of 100% solar power for public schools

Acting Commonwealth Utilities Corp. chief executive director William Gilmore signs the CUC-Public School System net metering policy of agreement yesterday at the CUC conference room. Also in the photo are CUC board chair Miranda V. Manglona and Education Commissioner Dr. Alfred Ada.

CONTRIBUTED CUC PHOTO



» **CUC board OKs CUC-PSS net metering MOA**

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE  
ferdie\_delatorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The goal is for all public schools to use alternative renewable energy this coming school year—and the Public School System has set an ambitious target of 100% solar power by then.

See ADA on Page 4



### AT A GLANCE

As of 6:22pm, June 9, 2021

#### VACCINATIONS IN THE CNMI

Eligible Population  
Fully Vaccinated: **57.4%**

Pfizer/BioNTech	
Initiated:	23,007
Fully Vaccinated:	20,697
Moderna	
Initiated:	3,973
Fully Vaccinated:	3,297
Janssen	
Fully vaccinated:	327

GUAM	OLD	NEW	TOTAL
Positive	8,215	0	8,215
Recovered	8,029	0	8,029
Active	47	0	47
Deaths	139	0	139
Cumulative Number of Persons Tested	168,825		

SAIPAN	OLD	NEW	TOTAL
Positive	183	0	183
Traced via Travel Screening	147	0	147
Traced via Community Screening	36	0	36
Deaths	2	0	2
Cumulative Number of Persons Tested	26,131*		
Days since last community transmission	78		

\*Total count includes the number of persons tested on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. With guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, CHCC has opted not to report active and recovered cases.

Source: Joint Information Center - Guam, Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.

### COMMUNITY VULNERABILITY

#### LEGEND:

- Red: Least safe
- Orange
- Yellow
- Blue
- Green: Safest

Source: Office of the Governor

### INSIDE



#### LOCAL

Mount Carmel School students win major awards at the recent Ninth Circuit Civics Contest.

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#### BUSINESS

Zaabder Thai Snack Bar has opened across Hannam Supermarket in Koblerville.

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#### ENVIRONMENT

Twelve students are participating in this year's Project HOPE of the FTMT.

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# Local

## What now on the plan to build a veterans cemetery on Rota?

That's the question on the mind of Sen. Teresita A. Santos (Ind-Rota), who pointed out that the CNMI government had applied for a grant to fund the project in 2013 and that there is already a designated site for the cemetery.

In a bid to get some answers, Santos asked Veterans Affairs Office executive director Stanley T. Iakopo to provide an update on the status of this project and asked Iakopo if the Veterans Affairs Office or other government offices were able to secure the grant funding

necessary to build the cemetery. Santos asked for the most recent project updates if the grant had been secured; if not, she asked Iakopo to provide a plan on how to obtain a funding source.

In his reply to Santos last Tuesday, Iakopo said he is now gathering information on the Rota Veterans Cemetery project. Iakopo said he is not familiar with the details regarding the project, but there are a few individuals who were involved.

"I will provide more details soon," said Iakopo in an email to Santos.

The senator noted that Public Law 17-60 designated one hectare of public land on Rota for the future site of the veterans cemetery and that the Department of Public Lands has already designated the site near the Santa Lourdes Chapel for this.

The senator said the CNMI government submitted a grant application in 2013, to fund the Rota and Tinian veterans cemetery projects. She said she is not aware if the government received the grant and how much was received, if any.

Although there is already a CNMI Veterans Cemetery in Marpi on Saipan, Santos said the people and veterans of Rota have expressed their desire to have their own cemetery.

The senator said that once a loved one is buried at the CNMI Veterans Cemetery on Saipan, it becomes extremely difficult for family members and loved ones to visit the burial site because many are unable to afford the airline fare, car rental, food, and other expenses incurred when traveling to Saipan.

She said the financial burden that is placed on each member of the bereaved family is too burdensome during their time of loss, coupled with the current financial difficulties many people face today because of the COVID-19 pandemic and the CNMI's ailing economy.

She pointed out that visiting the burial sites of deceased loved ones not only happens on Memorial Day but also on All Souls' Day

and All Saints Day.

Santos said with the CNMI Veterans Cemetery on Saipan located a plane ride away, many families cannot continue this tradition.

"Constructing a Rota Veterans Cemetery will honor and pay tribute to the sacrifices of our veterans and fallen heroes from the island of Rota and bestow them the opportunity to be buried on the island they call home," she said. **(Ferdie de la Torre)**

## Qualifying certificate program reform in the works

By JOSHUA SANTOS  
joshua\_santos@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Rep. Angel A. Demapan (R-Saipan) believes the CNMI government and its leadership must make the most of the current "downtime" in tourism and the economy to make the CNMI ready when the economy starts picking up again.

Toward this end, Demapan hopes that his House Bill 22-70, or the Investment Incentive Act of 2021, which outlines updates to the CNMI's qualifying certificate program,

will receive positive reception similar to his bill that created the Commonwealth Economic Development Authority that was enacted last May 20.

Both the House of Representatives and the Senate unanimously passed the CEDA bill on March 25 and May 18, respectively, and it became law last May 20 during the groundbreaking ceremony for the Airport Road construction project.

With Torres making the formation of the new CEDA and its capabilities now a public

law, Demapan, the Governor's Council of Economic Advisers, and CEDA are now working on updating the CNMI's qualifying certificate program through H.B. 22-70.

In an interview with Demapan after the CEDA bill enactment, he said, "I'm hoping to get the support again of the House and the Senate to move that bill forward, because that would really be an added tool to the new CEDA, to recalibrate the QC program to make sure that new investors—and for the first time in

history, current longstanding businesses—can build this program to expand and build bigger projects and investments in preparation for the return of our economy."

According to a press release that Demapan's office issued last June 4, the qualifying certificate program needs to be reformed to "keep current with changing dynamics in the competitive market for American investment and to provide greater resources to the CNMI's development entity."

## Grijalva to work on a permanent fix for US territories' access to federal benefits

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Rep. Raúl M. Grijalva (D-Ariz.), who chairs the House Natural Resources Committee in the U.S. Congress, released the following statement yesterday on the need for a legislative solution to the unequal access to federal benefits for U.S. citizens and U.S. nationals living in the insular territories.

"Given the administration's announcement today that it will appeal *U.S. v. Vaello Madero* to the Supreme Court, the Natural Resources Committee will redouble its efforts to work with other committees of jurisdiction

to expand access to Supplemental Security Income and other federal programs for residents of U.S. Territories. I have urged the new administration to guarantee equity in federal programs to Americans living in these jurisdictions, and today's announcement has done nothing to change my conviction that a permanent solution is necessary. Expanding access to federal programs for residents of U.S. territories, including Supplemental Security Income for residents of Puerto Rico, is one of my top priorities in this Congress." **(PR)**

## ANNOUNCEMENT



The CNMI WIC (Women, Infants and Children) Program is now accepting Vendor Applications for the islands of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

All interested vendors may pick up an application packet at the CNMI WIC Program's Administrative Office located on Upper Navy Hill Building # N-25, beginning June 01, 2021 through July 09, 2021; Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm, or request for an application via email at [fabianu@cnmiwic.org](mailto:fabianu@cnmiwic.org)

Applications must be submitted to the CNMI WIC Program's Administrative Office no later than 4:00 p.m., July 09, 2021.

Prospective applicants are encouraged to carefully read through the information packet provided to ensure minimum qualifications are met.

Inquiries and technical questions may be directed to the Vendor Management Coordinator, Fabian M. Ulloa at (670) 664-4067 or (670) 285-4073 or by email at [fabianu@cnmiwic.org](mailto:fabianu@cnmiwic.org).

WIC is an equal opportunity provider. The program is funded by the United States Department of Agriculture (CFDA #10.557, Federal Award Identification Number 217NMNM5W1003). The contents above are solely the responsibility of the CHCC and do not necessarily reflect the official views of United States Department of Agriculture.

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## Traffic lights to be installed at intersection of Quartermaster and Beach Road

A groundbreaking ceremony will be held today, Thursday, at 10am for the federally-funded construction of traffic signals at the intersection of Quartermaster and Beach Road.

Department of Public Works Secretary James A. Ada said yesterday that the \$2-million traffic signals project has been awarded to USA Fanter.

"This project has been long awaited," said Ada, adding that previous contractor who was awarded the project was unable to meet the project's demands, prompting DPW to rebid the project with additional funding.

He said the area—technically referred to as Route 315 (Quartermaster Roadway) merging with Route 33 (Beach Road) is an accident-prone point, warranting the installation of traffic signals to properly regulate the increased number of vehicles traversing on and off the route.

Ada urged motorists to be cautious when driving through the area as workers will soon begin the construction of the traffic lights, traffic poles, roadway stripings, and median redevelopment.

DPW Highway Branch project coordinator Kenn Aldan said the project is part of the Highway Master Plan development for roadway hazards and is funded through the Federal Highway Administration.

Meanwhile, Aldan also announced yesterday that due to the ongoing construction along Airport Road (Route 35), motorists going to the airport would have to detour to As Lito or San Vicente. Those coming from the airport, however, will still be able to use the road.

Aldan said the initial phase going toward the airport—the southbound lane—will undergo construction. Aldan said the southbound lane will be closed and signages have been

placed to detour motorists toward As Lito (Route 37) and San Vicente roadway (Route 305 or the road going toward

Dandan from San Vicente).

He said northbound motorists will still be able to traverse along Route 35 but southbound

motorists will need to detour toward established directions.

Aldan said this traffic plan will continue throughout the

phases of the construction.

Construction for Route 35 or Airport Road began last Monday. The construction

will consist of existing asphalt, compacting of coral base course, and roadway paving. (Ferdie de la Torre)



# Hot Summer SAVINGS

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KBB: \$43,854



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KBB: \$19,751

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• KBB: \$17,801

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2017 HONDA **HRV LX**

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• STK: 18P317A  
• KBB: \$17,453

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• STK: 7R235  
• KBB: \$17,146

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2018 KIA **OPTIMA LX**

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• KBB: \$21,336

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2017 MAZDA **MAZDA3 SPORT**

• 34,648 MILES  
• STK: 20M094A  
• KBB: \$14,967

SALE PRICE  
**\$13,995**



2015 TOYOTA **HIGHLANDER LE**

• 62,811 MILES  
• STK: 5HS735A  
• KBB: \$19,031

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## Coast Guard, partners rescue overdue fisherman in FSM

**SANTA RITA, Guam**—U.S. Coast Guard, Air Force, and Federated States of Micronesia responders rescued an overdue fisherman aboard his 19-foot skiff 55 miles west of Ant Atoll last Monday.

The joint operation began on Saturday when the Pohnpei Fire Department began searching for the fisherman after he failed to return from collecting mangroves south of Pohnpei.

"This case is a testament to the importance of our strong relationships throughout the Indo-Pacific region," said Capt. Nick Simmons, commander, Coast Guard Sector

Guam. "Through coordination with our partners in the Federated States of Micronesia, and our fellow service members from the Department of Defense, we were able to bring this case to a positive conclusion. Thank you to everyone who contributed to the successful outcome of this search and rescue case."

At 11:17pm, Saturday, Coast Guard Sector Guam watchstanders received a report from the Pohnpei Fire Department detailing the situation. The fisherman had last been seen at 5pm near Ros Island.

Sector Guam coordinated with the

Federated States of Micronesia National Police and the U.S. Embassy in Kolonia to formulate a response and issued a SafetyNet broadcast, while Joint Rescue Coordination Center Honolulu coordinated with the Air Force 36th Wing Command Post at Andersen Air Force Base for aircraft support.

The FSS *Micronesia* and FSS *Independence* were deployed to the search area while a Coast Guard Air Station Barbers Point HC-130 Hercules aircrew from Hawaii and an Air Force P-8 Poseidon aircrew from Kadena Air Force Base were dis-

patched to assist.

At 3pm on Monday, the P-8 Poseidon aircrew spotted a vessel matching the description of the fisherman's skiff while conducting their search pattern. The crew of the FSS *Micronesia* was diverted to investigate

while the P-8 remained overhead.

Once on-scene, the crew of the FSS *Micronesia* confirmed the person aboard the vessel was the missing fisherman. They recovered him, placed his skiff in tow, and safely returned him to Pohnpei. (PR)

## Sablan: OPA says some DPS vehicles not properly accounted for, other concerns



Rep. Christina E. Sablan (D-Saipan) asks Department of Public Safety director for administration Kaye Inos a question during a hearing on the DPS budget before the House Committee on Ways and Means Tuesday afternoon. Next to Sablan is Rep. Celina R. Babauta (D-Saipan).

FERDIE DE LA TORRE

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
ferdie\_deltorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Rep. Christina E. Sablan (D-Saipan) brought to the House Ways and Means Committee hearing last Tuesday an Office of the Public Auditor's vehicle audit in 2020 that stated that some DPS vehicles could not be accounted for, among other issues.

Speaking at the committee hearing that tackled the Department of Public Safety's budget request for the upcoming fiscal year, Sablan said the audit report identified some issues, including vehicles that weren't properly accounted for, misuse of vehicles, and other things.

"There's a whole list of concerns," the lawmaker noted.

As part of the audit, Sablan said, OPA looked at vehicles from other agencies, but the fact that a significant number of DPS vehicles had been "surveyed" was flagged. Vehicles that are "surveyed" refers to those removed from the DPS' or other agencies' fleet and turned over to the Division of Procurement & Supply.

Sablan asked if there has been a department review of ways to improve how vehicles are tracked.

DPS director for Administration Kaye Inos said she has not seen that

audit report and is not sure if DPS Commissioner Robert Guerrero has seen that report.

However, Inos said she knows that OPA went to DPS, asking about vehicle information.

Sablan asked if there was a review of how can DPS improve the way it tracks vehicles and make sure that they're being used appropriately and who is the person to oversee all the issues that were identified by OPA. Inos said she believes it's the commissioner, the chief of logistics, or maybe internal affairs.

Inos also mentioned that the department incurs \$300,000 annually for repairs of vehicles, including the monthly maintenance.

She said Saipan DPS has 144 vehicles that includes motorcycles and command vehicles. Inos said the "surveyed vehicles" are not included in that 144. Inos said there's a lot of "surveyed vehicles" that are currently at the Division of Procurement & Supply, but that she has no exact number. "Basically they're out of service," she said.

The Ways and Means Committee, chaired by Rep. Donald M. Manglona (Ind-Rota) will resume the budget hearing for DPS tomorrow, Friday, after Guerrero failed to show up at Tuesday's hearing.

school would pay for the electricity it uses, minus the credit from the excess electricity the solar panels earlier generated. Under this scheme, PSS estimates to reduce its CUC power bill by about \$1 million; PSS currently pays about \$2.2 million a year for power.

Education Commissioner Dr. Alfred Ada, who attended the CUC board meeting, said in an interview that he is pleased with the CUC board's support.

"It's been a long time coming. This is not just an educational but also an environmental issue," Ada said, adding that he feels solar panels are the best direction for the CNMI.

A longer version of this story is available at  
[www.saipantribune.com](http://www.saipantribune.com)

## JEJU

From Page 1

will hopefully begin on July 10," said Commonwealth Ports Authority board chair Kimberly King-Hinds.

For their part, the South Korea government through its MLIT is working to authorize group tours of fully vaccinated South Korean citizens to countries with stable COVID-19 health and safety protocols in place. To date, South Korea has vaccinated almost 6 million of its citizens.

The TRIP program was released to the public last week. It is a set of travel protocols intended to revive the CNMI's tourism industry. It is a pilot program that will run for two months and offers incentives to partners who will take part in it, while also prioritizing the health and safety of people in the CNMI.

As part of the incentives offered to airlines, flights below 40% load will be incentivized by the CNMI government, provided that tickets prices are to be sold at \$400. Airplane seat load of over 40% will not get an incentive.

Tourists on these flights will be taken to designated hybrid quarantine facilities. On Day 1, all passengers will receive a PCR test and all visitors must remain in their rooms. On Day 2 to 4, if the results are negative, visitors will now be free to enjoy the facilities that include water parks, access to the beach, restaurants, and the golf course. All hotel staff and workers will also stay in the facilities. Day 5 and after a second PCR test with negative result, visitors will be allowed to leave the hybrid quarantine facility.

Third, tourists are transferred to an accredited Corridor Hotel that TRIP will incentivize to offer 24-hour service, available rooms, dining accommodations, water sports activities and must be willing to open with COVID-19 monitoring guidance.

Tourist incentives includes free PCR tests and "Travel Bucks" consisting of \$500 worth of vouchers that they can spend on each island they visit, thus encouraging island hopping and staying longer. The voucher will also allow them to use for hotel accommodations, food, etc. The more islands they visit, the

larger amount of Travel Bucks they will receive. The program also give incentives to tour/travel operators and agencies both here and in South Korea to help sell the CNMI as an ideal travel destination. Funds to give incentives will come from the American Rescue Plan Act.

TRIP was organized by the Tourism Resumption Task Force and implemented by the Marianas Visitor's Authority.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres said he supports the program 100%. "... This is a roll-out that is not perfect but this [program] is what they—the airlines, hotels, local business owners etc.—agreed on. This was discussed a whole lot and especially how it is going to work. This is the best scenario that we have. ...It's the opportunity that we have today," he said.

Other TRIP partners such as airlines, hybrid quarantine and corridor hotels, and request for proposals were released yesterday, according to MVA board chair Viola Alepuyo and the scope of work is available at the MVA office in San Jose. The last day to submit an RFPs to MVA is on June 23.

## CANOE

From Page 1

department's short and long-term plans for fire safety and security of the premises.

The canoe and canoe house belong to DCCA as part of its Seafaring Traditions Program.

Project lead John Castro said that security of the area was a concern even before the projects began and remembers submitting requests to authorities to have some kind of security in the premises.

"We did put in some requests, and I don't know what happened. Maybe things just turned the other way. ... It's upsetting now, but I'm pretty sure after what happened they're going to have to put security now," said Castro.

Fellow seafarer Pete Perez, who co-founded 500 Sails, is angry with what has happened: "This is a nightmare! I am so angry and upset to see this beautiful canoe suffer. We are all suffering. So much love and work went into bringing the canoe into the community. We must demand security for our cultural assets!" said Perez.

500 Sails is a nonprofit organization that, like the DCCA, is seeking to revive the CNMI's seafaring traditions.

Social media posts of the fire's af-

termath have drawn many comments, with many expressing their sympathy for the builders and their anger at the lack of security.

"Best seal that area off from people so as not to happen again. I pray that the builders keep their heads up," said one Facebook commenter.

"The government should start funding for [security cameras] just like elsewhere so we can get these a\_\_\_ doing such things like this and punish them big time," said another commenter.

Deleon Guerrero spoke with *Saipan Tribune* on Wednesday about how his department will address the public demand for security of cultural assets and shared details about the future fate of the burned canoe.

In the short-term, what Deleon Guerrero and those involved with the project have worked out is an agreement to clean the piles of wood shavings strewn on the floor of the canoe house. According to Deleon Guerrero, the fire made its way under the canoe through these shavings catching fire. "Security [and fire prevention] for now begins with small measures," said Deleon Guerrero.

In the long-term, Deleon Guerrero has reopened talks with Department of Public Lands leaders on the necessity for fencing around the canoe house. He met with DPL officials last Tuesday.

Deleon Guerrero mentioned that he has had concerns regarding security, arson, and fire accidents for quite some time, and that "this time we don't need to justify" why fencing is absolutely needed at the canoe house.

Deleon Guerrero said that discussions on the need for a fence first took place among DPL, then-DCCA secretary Robert Hunter, and executive director for the Commonwealth Council for Arts and Culture Parker Yobei in December 2020 before the start of the canoe and canoe house projects, and that at the time DPL chose not to pursue fencing in order to maintain free public access.

It was previously reported that the canoe was 95% unsalvageable, but Deleon Guerrero was able to share some hopeful news. Instead of completely scrapping the boat, Deleon Guerrero shared that the new plan in the meantime is to disassemble the canoe, remove the burnt pieces, and reconstruct the vessel into a 35-foot paddling canoe. While the new paddling canoe may not be able to withstand ocean travel, Deleon Guerrero is hopeful that it will make the vessel seaworthy for in-reef water travel.

As per a press release that the Department of Fire & Emergency Medical Services issued Wednesday, the cause of the fire is "still under investigation and more information will be given out accordingly."





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# MCS students win top awards at 2021 Ninth Circuit Civics Contest



Mount Carmel School's Katherine Avendano-Woodruff, center, wins first place in the essay and video categories of the 2021 Ninth Circuit Civics Contest. U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Mangloña, left, and magistrate judge Heather L. Kennedy, right, flank Avendano-Woodruff in this photo.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Mount Carmel School students competed and won major awards at the recent 2021 Ninth Circuit Civics Contest.

The contest consisted of an essay and video contest that posed the question, "What does our American community ask of us?" The contest was open to high school students in the western United States and Pacific Islands. As part of the evaluation process, students were encouraged to discuss the theme of the contest in reference to the U.S. Constitution, and to consider the historical examples or other relevant events in American history for both their essay and video submissions.

Among Mount Carmel School's competitors, Katherine Avendano-Woodruff won first place in the essay contest;

Richard Steele won second place in the essay contest; Brandee Hunter, Connie Zhu, and Katherine Avendano-Woodruff won first place in the video contest; and Skyler Poon, John San Nicolas, and Raffy Lee won third place for the video contest.

Avendano-Woodruff, who won first place in both the video and essay contests, discussed the importance of cooperation and perseverance when overcoming present issues. "The competition challenged me to reflect on the current state of our nation and realize what we need to do as a community to make it better," she said.

Avendano-Woodruff is a recent graduate of Mount Carmel School's Class of 2021 and was

recognized as the salutatorian of her class. She will attend Chapman University in the fall for her undergraduate studies.

"I am very proud of all our students that competed in the 2021 Ninth Circuit Civics Contest," said school president Dr. Galvin Deleon Guerrero. "They all conducted extensive research in relation to the Constitution to justify their perspectives. I am proud of the work they submitted and I'm glad their hard work was recognized."

The winning videos will be screened before the Zero-2Hero encore screening this Friday, June 11, at 7pm on the school quad (or the auditorium in the event of rain).

For more information about Mount Carmel School's aca-



Mount Carmel School's Richard Steele, center, wins second place in the essay category of the 2021 Ninth Circuit Civics Contest. With him in this photo are U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Mangloña, left, and magistrate judge Heather L. Kennedy, right.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Mount Carmel School's Connie Zhu, second from left, Brandee Hunter, center, and Katherine Avendano-Woodruff, second from right, win first place in the video category of the 2021 Ninth Circuit Civics Contest. Others in the photo are U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Mangloña, left, and magistrate judge Heather L. Kennedy, right.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

demographic programs and services, visit [www.mountcarmel-saipan.com](http://www.mountcarmel-saipan.com). (MCS)

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Pursuant to P. L. 8-41, Section 11, Governor Ralph Torres and Lt. Governor Arnold I. Palacios, through the Board of Professional Licensing (BPL) are hereby giving notice that it will hold its quarterly board meeting on **Friday, June 11, 2021 at 1:30p.m.** on Saipan. The meeting will be held at the Governor's Office Conference Room, Capitol Hill, Saipan.

## AGENDA

- I. Meeting Call to Order
- II. Determination of Quorum
- III. Review and Adoption of Agenda (February 24, 2021)
- IV. Review and Adoption of Minutes
- V. Public Comments
- VI. Chairman's Report
- VII. Director's Report
  - Financial Update
  - NCARB's 2021 Annual Business Meeting in Los Angeles, CA from June 24-26, 2021
  - NCEES Meeting
  - Real Property Appraiser Qualification Criteria
- VIII. Investigator's Report
- IX. Communications from the Governor's Office & Legislature
  - A. Governor's Office
  - B. Legislature
- X. Old Business
- XI. Executive Session: The Board may vote to meet in executive session to consult with counsel with pending or anticipated legal matters.
- XII. New Business
- XIII. Applications for Board's Review
- XIV. Miscellaneous Business
- XV. Announcements
  - A. Next Meeting Date
  - B. Adjournment of Meeting

ROBERT T. TORRES, ESQ.  
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 Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)  
 Saipan, MP 96950  
 Tel.: 234-7859 | Fax: 234-5750  
 Attorney for Plaintiff Bernadita Cabrera Palacios

## IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Civil Action  
 No. 21-0003  
 BERNADITA CABRERA PALACIOS, Plaintiff,  
 vs.  
 HONG DA DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, Defendant.  
 Date: July 12, 2021  
 Time: 1:30 p.m.  
 Judge: Hon. Kenneth L. Govendo

## NOTICE OF MOTION

TO: DEFENDANT HONG DA DEVELOPMENT, and ANY COUNSEL OF RECORD:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT ON JULY 12, 2021, at 1:30 p.m., a hearing will be held before the Honorable Judge Kenneth L. Govendo on Plaintiff's Motion for Default Judgment of Final Removal under the Holdover Tenancy Act in the above-captioned matter, at the Superior Court for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guma Hustisia, Civic Center, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

So dated this 7th day of June, 2021.

/s/  
 CLERK OF COURT/DEPUTY CLERK

CRYSTAL FIONA RIO MANIPON  
 P.O. BOX 504124 SAIPAN, MP 96950  
 670-287-0944

PRO SE

## IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

In the Matter of the Petition for the Change of Name of: CRYSTAL FIONA RIO MANIPON )  
 Petitioner ) FCD CN  
 CIVIL ACTION  
 NO. 21-0067

## NOTICE OF HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the above-entitled matter is set for a hearing on July 26, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. in Courtroom Superior Court, before Associate Judge Teresa Kim-Tenorio.

Dated this 3rd day of May, 2021.

Patrick V. Diaz  
 Clerk of Court

By: Deputy Clerk of Court



Mount Carmel School's Skyler Poon, second from left, Raffy Lee, center, and John San Nicolas, second from right, win third place in the video category of the 2021 Ninth Circuit Civics Contest. Others in the photo are U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Mangloña, left, and magistrate judge Heather L. Kennedy, right.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY**  
**COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION**  
**REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION (RFQ)**  
**RFQ21-CHCC/PH/CGC-001**  
**SUBMISSION DEADLINE: JUNE 21, 2021 TIME: 4:30PM (CHST)**  
**PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FOR INDEFINITE DELIVERY INDEFINITE QUANTITY (IDIQ)**

INTERESTED PARTIES CAN DOWNLOAD THIS REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION FROM THE CHCC WEBSITE ([WWW.CHCC.GOV.MP](http://WWW.CHCC.GOV.MP)). ONCE AT THE SITE, NAVIGATE TO **REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS** TAB ON THE LEFT NAVIGATION BAR. CLICK ON THE URL FOR THIS RFP. YOU WILL BE REQUIRED TO ENTER DATA TO ALLOW US TO TRACK ALL REQUESTS FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY.

THE CHCC RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSAL AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN ANY PROPOSAL, IF TO DO SO SHALL BE IN THE INTEREST OF THE CHCC. ALL PROPOSALS SHALL BECOME THE EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OF THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION.

/s/ ESTHER L. MUNA  
 CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

/s/ CORAZON P. ADA  
 DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY



# PCF's second retreat focuses on environmental development

The Class of 2021 of the Pacific Century Fellows-Marianas Chapter had its second retreat last May 20 at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium conference room, with the 13-member cohort gaining a more in-depth perspective of environmental development in the CNMI.

From zoning permits to environmental quality, marine biology and fishing to natural and coastal resources, the cohort was given sufficient information on environment protection and development.

Class member Lee Tenorio, who is also the Saipan Chamber of Commerce executive director, said that Commonwealth Zoning Board administrator Geralyn D. Dela Cruz's presentation on zoning permits was most useful from a business perspective because there is value in identifying the variety of permits that are needed for residential or business projects.

"Working with local businesses, small and large, it is a typical concern on permitting with regards to the one-start application process as it consists of multiple agencies for approval," said Tenorio.

The cohort learned that permit requirements need to be completed first to move forward with projects, whether it's building, renovating, or expanding. With this knowledge, Tenorio said this gives him a clear and concise direction on how to proceed.

Victoria Deleon Guerrero, director for Mount Carmel School's Institutional Development, said all presentations regarding environmental development were very informative.

"As an educator, it's helpful for me to meet the various leaders who are involved with natural resource management and the different sectors that exist so I can also introduce these professions to my students to consider as they think about college," said Deleon Guerrero.

She added that it's a great opportunity to be able to speak with leaders in the community to understand what's going on, what the CNMI's challenges are, what's effective, and what we are doing to move forward with development without compromising the environment.

Another educator, Dr. Riya Nathrani, found the presentation from the Micronesian Islands Nature Alliance and the Bureau of Environment and Coastal Quality the most informative and useful. Nathrani said she enjoyed learning about the programs MINA conducts to enhance the environment, from the Bring Back Our Trees campaign to doing beach cleanups with Tasi Watch rangers.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Class of 2021 of the Pacific Century Fellows-Marianas Chapter poses with CNMI vice chair of the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council John Gourley, ninth from left, after his presentation on effective conservation and proven development of the region's fishery resources.

Nathrani has worked with MINA's Environmental Conservation Program for the past two years. This program has allowed her students to be involved in several projects in school where they learn about environmental protection and preservation.

"I enjoyed hearing from BECQ about their goals on improving environmental

quality. The presentation focused on coral reef conservation, pesticides, waste and air quality management, and wastewater and erosion control," she said.

Nathrani said these topics allowed her and other PCF class members to discuss the implications leaders have in the community and how environmental factors can influ-

ence decisions.

The Class of 2021 will have its third retreat on June 16 and the group will talk about health and humanitarian services in the Marianas. Other members of the Class of 2021 are Nicole Babauta, Broc Calvo, Weston Thomas Deleon Guerrero, William "Billy" Richard Grow II, Hedwig Hofschneider, Julie Ann Litulumar, Ana

Mendiola, Annette Pladevega, and John Gilbert Saludez.

The PCF-Marianas Chapter would like to thank Dela Cruz, Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality-Division of Environmental Quality acting director Zabrina Shai, MINA program manager David L. Benavente, Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council vice chair John

Gourley, Rep. Sheila Babauta, and BECQ Division of Coastal Resources Management director Janice Castro for their inputs in the class' discussions.

The Pacific Century Fellows Marianas Chapter is a nine-month leadership development program organized by the Tan Siu Lin Foundation and modeled after the Pacific Century Fellows of Hawaii. (PR)

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CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER



# Opinion

Hafa Adair

## Saipan Tribune

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### EDITORIAL

## 'Constitutional carry' shouldn't mean irresponsible carry

**T**he state of Texas no longer requires a license to carry a handgun, but if you're going to carry, you should get one anyway. The state will continue to offer licenses, and firearm safety experts who teach licensing classes say they're as busy as ever.

Yes, we understand that your father/uncle/grandmother might have taught you how to handle a gun. That's valuable, especially if it came with enough practice to build confidence. But Grandma might not have taught you some of the most critical issues related to carrying a gun.

She might not have taught you, for example, that if a neighbor kid comes into your house and finds a pistol on the nightstand, you can be charged with a crime. Improper storage of a gun is against the law. Grandma might not have given you tips about interacting with police or knowing what buildings are exempt from Texas' new "constitutional carry" law.

Anna Thomasson, owner of Dallas-based Aim True Group, said she has noticed women particularly are interested in her classes lately, especially if they have been in threatening situations. She told us about a young lady who recently took the course and realized she had been putting herself in danger needlessly.

"We think she'll be safer, whether she has a gun or not, just out and about," Thomasson's husband and co-teacher Bryan Wertz said.

Thomasson and Wertz said they expect a dip in registrations because of the new law, but they expect it to be greater among men.

"We think men will drop off more than women," Wertz said. "That's OK with us. We'll train ladies 9-to-1 over men. For the most part, men aren't looking for training."

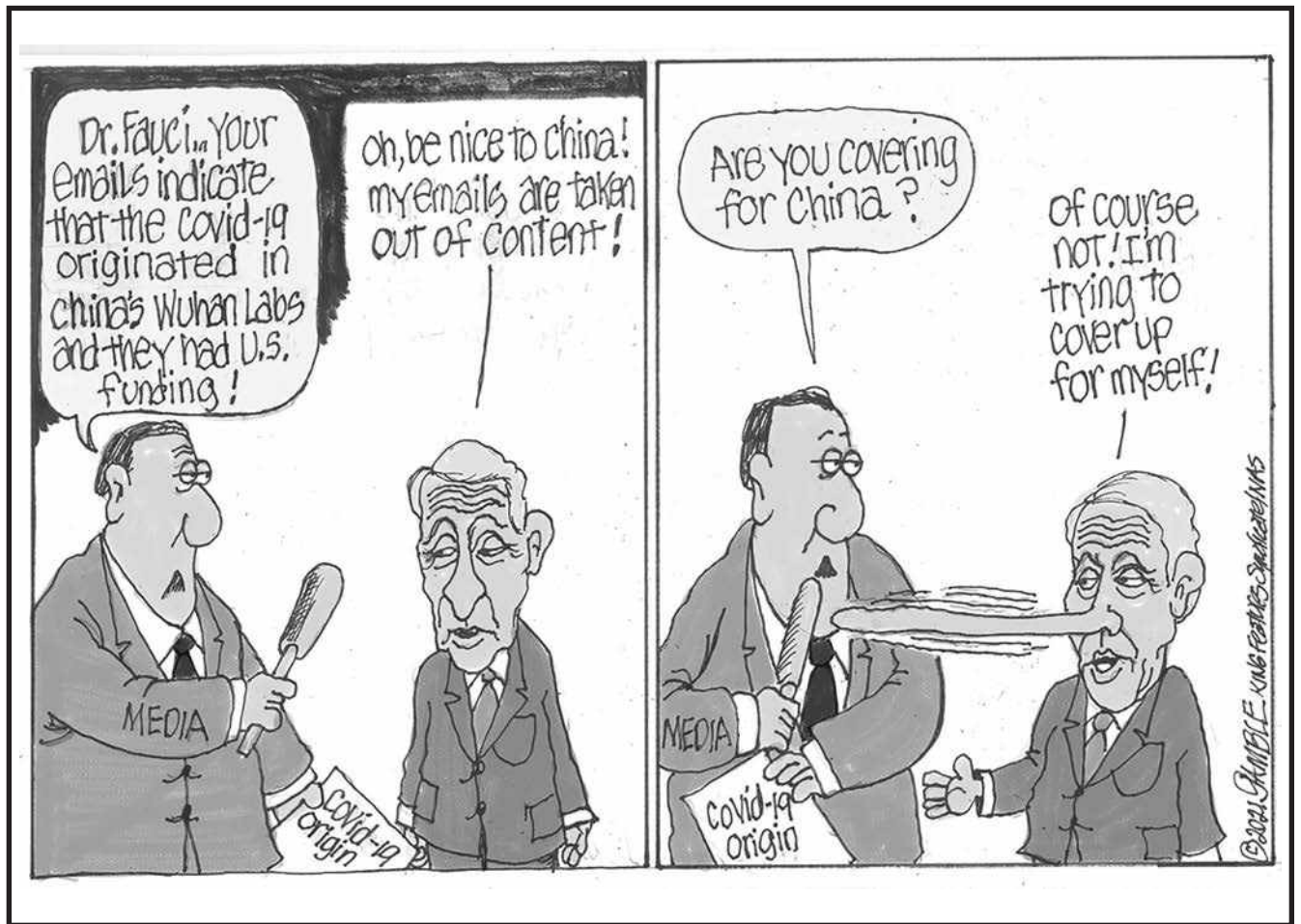
Personal protection isn't the only reason people are still signing up. Texas has reciprocity agreements with 37 other states, giving Texas licensees rights there, according to the U.S. Concealed Carry Association. If you plan to travel with a gun, the license could keep you out of trouble.

Julianna Crowder, founder of A Girl and A Gun Women's Shooting League, said instructors like her might have to adjust their offerings because of the new law. Crowder said when Texas dropped the length of required instruction several years ago, she pivoted.

"I had to make my money teaching private classes, learn-to-shoot classes," she wrote in a text. "I see this new legislation impacting those instructors that only teach the license-to-carry class and don't focus as much of their business on learn-to-shoot classes or more advanced skill sets."

But regardless of an instructor's business model, the bottom line for gun owners should be safety. Responsible gun owners will want to be trained. In fact, it's not an exaggeration to say that a training course is the primary difference between someone who wants to carry a gun and someone who wants to do so responsibly. We think most Texas gun owners fit the latter category.

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## Naomi Osaka's withdrawal from the French Open was a stand for disability rights

**W**hen Naomi Osaka exited the French Open last week, the tennis champion wasn't just shielding herself; she was defending her rights as a disabled person.

She may not have put it that way. But Osaka is a perfect example of how one can be both able-bodied and disabled.

Under the Americans with Disabilities Act, emotional and psychiatric impairments such as depression and anxiety are disabilities. If you're treated unfairly in a public place or employment situation because of these impairments, you have a valid discrimination suit. Of course, the French Open is not within the ADA's jurisdiction. But if it were, the French Open, along with the Women's Tennis Association and the International Tennis Federation, could be liable for failing to make a reasonable accommodation for Osaka's emotional needs.

Prior to the tournament, Osaka announced she would not participate in the French Open's news conferences due to a "disregard for athletes' mental health." She then won her first round of the tournament and skipped the post-match press conference. She was fined \$15,000 by Grand Slam tournament administrators. They also threatened her with expulsion from future matches if she continued to ignore media obligations. After her subsequent withdrawal from the French Open and announcement that she has suffered from depression, officials walked back their previous statement and gave vague offers of support and sympathy.

But what Osaka deserves isn't pity or even kindness. She needs a modification to make these events accessible for her, such as being allowed to compete without participating in post-match news conferences. As someone who is physically disabled, I know firsthand that when such a change is not granted it sends a chilling message to all members of the disability community.

According to the World Health Organization, an estimated 264 million people globally have depression. In the U.S., roughly 26% of Americans 18 and over have diagnosable mental disorders, reports Johns Hopkins Medical Center. Accommodating Osaka's depression and anxiety would not be a special privilege but a reasonable accommodation for an all too ordinary condition that more people should recognize.

News conferences are required of most professional athletes by the leagues to which they belong. The players are considered representatives of their sports, and more media attention to a specific league or team helps draw bigger audiences and sell more merchandise. But effectively forcing Osaka to drop out doesn't do the tennis world's bottom line any good either.

To be sure, the ADA is a complicated document and it might be difficult for other governing bodies to adopt their own ver-

By **BEN MATTLIN**  
Los Angeles Times

Ben Mattlin is a writer in Los Angeles who covers disability issues and is the author of two books, including *In Sickness* and *In Health*.



sions. Still, the landmark law, which was enacted in 1990, broadly defines disability as any "physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities." It applies to anyone who appears to be or is thought of as disabled. Specific diagnoses are irrelevant: It's about an inability to accomplish tasks in traditional ways, as well as any stigmas related to being physically or mentally different.

Its applicability to mental illnesses was established by the Supreme Court in 1999 in the case of *Olmstead v. L.C.* That case involved two Georgia women who had diagnoses of different mental health conditions and intellectual disabilities. They sued the state of Georgia to permit them to receive their periodic treatments in their home communities rather than having to live in state-run institutions to be treated. The case was heard by the Supreme Court, which ruled in their favor in 1999, establishing for legal purposes that mental illnesses are ADA-protected forms of disabilities.

The *Olmstead* decision was about institutionalization, not tennis. But since then, there have been many other cases in which employees have gone to court to get their employers to make necessary modifications for their mental health needs.

The ADA challenges both employers and employees to think about accommodations—ideally, they work together to come up with fair solutions. Disabled employees (or job candidates) must be clear about what they need to be able to perform the essential duties. They should put in specific requests, such as fatigue breaks, or telecommuting when possible or, as with Osaka, the right to wear headphones to "dull my social anxiety," as she said on social media.

For employers, the challenge is to specify the necessary requirements of the job. For example, if an administrative assistant can manage a calendar and input data as required, does it matter if they lack the dexterity to serve coffee?

If Gilles Moretton, the president of the French Federation of Tennis, is sincere about being "committed to all athletes' well-

See NAOMI on Next Page



**EDITORIAL POLICY**

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

## Commencement address for NMC's Class of 2020

*Editor's Note: This is the transcript of the speech made by NMC's Class of 2020 commencement speaker Eun Ho An. An delivered this speech to her fellow graduates at the Hyatt Regency Saipan on May 21, 2021 during NMC's 40th Commencement Exercise.*

**L**adies and gentlemen, family, faculty, and all graduates who are here today, before I begin, I would like to give thanks to all the people who helped make this special ceremony possible today.

Especially, I would like to enjoy this moment with my fellow members of the class of 2020.

It has taken a long time to get here. How long? You know how long. A whole year. 12 months. 52 weeks. 365 days. 8,760 hours. 525,600 minutes. Thirty-one MILLION five hundred thirty-six thousand seconds! Not that I've been counting or anything.

And the whole time we had to deal with a global pandemic. Quarantines and stay-at-home orders. Homeschooling our kids. Masks, masks, and more masks. Zoom. Seriously, Zoom. Did I mention homeschooling our kids?

Well, John, Alice, are you here? Class of 2020, are you here? You guys, we finally got the graduation ceremony we've been waiting for!

You guys, please join me in giving ourselves a big round of applause for our outstanding achievement! Let's celebrate our great day! Congratulations!

Ladies and gentlemen, it's my great honor today to deliver the commencement address for this incredible student body. My fellow members of the class 2020 and 2021! Think for a moment about the legacy we have all made together.

You made all your efforts to earn your qualifications throughout the entire course. So, the diploma you received today is the fruit of your hard work and elaboration.

Now, I stand here before you as a humble graduate who struggled with my own obstacles every semester, struggles such as language, age, and energy, to catch up with my young classmates and complete all my various courses.

Today, I would like to talk about "appreciation" and "passion for learning."

For several years, as a mother of two kids, I struggled to fulfill

all the requirements to graduate. Now that I have achieved my goal, I realize how much I need to say about those two ideas - appreciation and passion for learning.

First of all, I would like to share my joy with my beloved family and dedicate this honor to my husband, who was willing to give great support to me. If he hadn't pushed me to start my study, this honor of today wouldn't have happened. He made me a better person and encouraged me not to give up in every difficult moment. So, I sincerely appreciate all his love and devotion. Thank you so much, darling, and I love you!

Next, I would like to express all my gratitude to every faculty member and staff of NMC. Ladies and gentlemen! I'll never forget what all the faculty members have done for me. They constantly encouraged me to keep going. They were willing to support me to be able to complete all my courses successfully. Therefore, I would like to take this opportunity to show my appreciation for all my faculty members.

All members of the [classes of] 2020 and 2021, let's show our appreciation by giving all faculty members a big round of applause! Thank you for all your excellent teaching and support. Every one of you has made an impact on the graduates who are here today. Thank you so much.

Ladies and gentlemen, in addition to appreciation, I also wanted to talk to you about the passion for learning. To start, I would like to share Mahatma Gandhi's famous and inspirational quote about the passion for learning and attitude towards our life: "Live as if you were to die tomorrow. Learn as if you were to live forever."

His saying inspired me, and it became my motto in my daily life and the rest of my life. The idea behind that motto is the reason why I, a homemaker and mother of two, decided to start my study at NMC in my mid-40's.

However, during my college life, I met many awesome classmates who lived passionately as multi-players, fulfilling roles as parents, students, and employees every single day.

For example, I would like to introduce one of my awesome classmates, Jessica, who has three children, two boys and one girl, and a serious lack of sleep every day. In my memory, every once in a while she just couldn't help being a sleeping

**By EUN HO AN**

Special to the Saipan Tribune



*Eun Ho An completed her Associate of Arts in Liberal Arts with an emphasis in Education in December 2019 as part of Class of 2020. She is now working on her Associate of Applied Science degree in Business Administration with an emphasis in Computer Applications.*

beauty in class.

Even though she had to take care of her kids and worked at a restaurant, she showed her passion for learning in every class.

Also, she was always energetic and smiling. I don't know how she did it, but she must've taken a special vitamin in secret to boost her energy. Like Mahatma Gandhi's saying, Jessica intensely lived her life to the fullest and pursued her learning with that same intensity. Her energy and passion inspired me, and I was really pleased to be with her for several years.

Ladies and gentlemen, in the spirit of passionate learning, I wanted to tell you that I just started a new course at the school of business at NMC! After four years, or maybe a more extended period, no matter how long it takes, I think I will get another diploma in my future.

Like Mahatma Gandhi's saying, I will continue to learn at NMC for the rest of my life as if I were to live forever. Also, I look forward to the day when I can study at NMC with my two daughters. My fellow members of the class 2020 and 2021!

We have earned our passport to go to a better world through our patience and hard work. We have achieved our goals through our learning at NMC. We have been enlightened about how to live in this harsh world through various and practical processes for all semesters.

Congratulations again to each of you, and best wishes for your future.

Thank you for listening to my humble speech. Thank you so much!

## Why we need to protect a free press everywhere

**C**atching up with a friend over Zoom, I wondered recently what might have happened if China had come clean about the presence and origins of COVID-19 before it spread beyond Wuhan. But, my friend asked, wouldn't the United States have done the same and tried to hide it too?

No, I replied. Even if our government had tried, it would have come to light. That's the beauty of an open society and a free press.

Imagine if COVID-19 had first emerged in a country with a free press. Government officials might have quickly raised alarm and taken action, knowing the truth would get out. Or they might hesitate, but a nurse could call the local paper to raise concern about a mysterious new illness or reach out to a national news outlet over Twitter. A reporter with a tip might ask a question at a news conference.

The news wouldn't have stayed quiet for long here. Our federal government then might have balked in denial, but U.S. states and other nations would have access to information far sooner than they did under China's obstruction.

If the new virus had been brought to light sooner, how many of 3.5 million lives might have been saved? How many small businesses wouldn't have shuttered? How many people would

have kept their jobs and kids stayed in school?

Press freedom is essential for our protection, but in a globalized world, a free press at home isn't enough to keep us safe. It must be a priority in U.S. foreign policy too.

Journalism is under attack worldwide. On May 23, the Belarusian government forcefully diverted a commercial passenger jet to arrest Roman Protasevich, a dissident journalist living in exile. In 2018, Saudi Arabian agents murdered Jamal Khashoggi, a Saudi journalist and Washington Post columnist, inside its consulate in Istanbul.

Less dramatic assaults happen every day. During the last week of May alone, the Committee to Protect Journalists reported nine incidents of imprisonment, beating, detention and harassment of journalists in eight countries. Murders and detentions of journalists globally are at record highs.

These attacks harm more than individuals. They have a chilling effect on the entire profession. Local reporters working under authoritarian regimes self-censor, fearing what might happen if they report the truth. Aspiring journalists seek other career paths. In the end, no one is there to reveal the crime, corruption or cover-up—so bad actors get worse, and we all pay the price.

We pay in the form of pandemics, a worsening global economy, crime and instability that crosses borders, in the poisoning of our environment and in unsustainable flows of migrants driven by all of the above.

A free press reveals problems before they become crises. It helps citizens choose better government and hold elected officials accountable. It informs foreign policy. The more integrated our global community, the more important that this freedom cross borders too.

Press freedom is also an antidote to corrupt governance, so authoritarians will fight it. This is why we must address challenges to press freedom at early stages, when a reputation for freedom is still currency in a country, and when friendly countries that support such freedoms still hold sway.

Belarus is a pariah state already, so imposing more sanctions

**By ELIZABETH SHACKELFORD**

Chicago Tribune



*Elizabeth Shackelford is a senior fellow on U.S. foreign policy with the Chicago Council on Global Affairs. She was previously a U.S. diplomat and is author of The Dissent Channel: American Diplomacy in a Dishonest Age.*

is unlikely to secure Protasevich's release. But other countries, such as Egypt, Somalia, and yes, Saudi Arabia, count on the United States for military support, economic aid and international partnership. We have sway we can use, but will we use it to promote a free press?

As a U.S. diplomat, I drafted strongly worded statements urging the release of journalists detained or worse. But those statements were never met with action. Like so many human rights we claim to value, our commitment only went so far. We didn't take it seriously, so assaults on a free press continued.

If the United States were willing to use leverage, such as cutting assistance over violations of a free press, those countries might take it more seriously. Not every country would respond, but some would, and the more countries that foster a free press, the safer we all will be.

We can't take a free press for granted at home either. For four years, the press was attacked as the "enemy of the people," reminiscent of attacks by authoritarians around the world. But the corporate threat to journalism in America may leave more lasting damage. Newsrooms are shrinking as big business gobbles up local outlets. Job cuts and pay cuts have a chilling effect on the industry too.

What happens when no one is there to report crimes, corruption or cover-ups where you live? The global threat next time might start closer to home. Will we be ready to protect the world from it, and ourselves too?

**NAOMI**

From Page 8

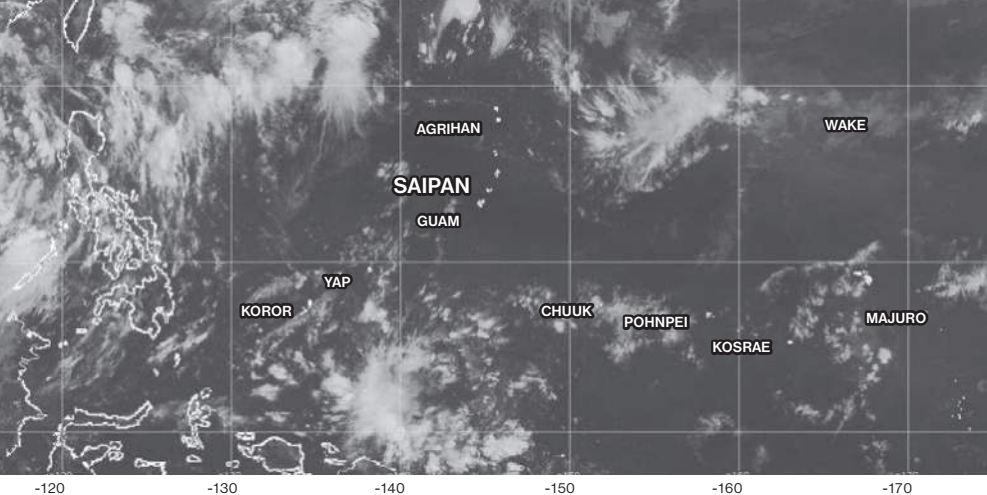
being and to continually improving every aspect of players' experience in our Tournament, including with the Media," the least he and the other leaders of the sports world could do is reconsider the essential tasks required of players. Is it truly necessary that Osaka participate in news conferences?

Naomi Osaka and others like her should be accommodated not because they are "spoiled brats" with unreasonable needs but because they are human—and humans have disabilities.



# The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN									
TODAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY		SUNDAY		MONDAY	
Partly cloudy in the morning then becoming mostly cloudy in the afternoon. Isolated showers.		Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Southeast winds 5 to 10 mph.		Partly cloudy with isolated showers.		Partly cloudy with isolated showers.		Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	
88°	78°	88°	78°	88°	78°	88°	78°	88°	78°
YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE									



PICTURE TIME: 8:26 AM, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 9, 2021

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A surface ridge has edged southward over the CNMI and is maintaining a light wind pattern across the region. While nearly-clear skies are seen early this morning near Guam, satellite imagery shows a few more clouds over the CNMI, increasing north of 15N where MIMIC TPW imagery indicates increasing atmospheric moisture content. Buoys show seas of 2 to 3 feet around the islands.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: [www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/](http://www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/)

## STOP THE SPREAD

The Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. continue to encourage residents within the Marianas to practice social distancing, which means avoiding close contact with people in order to avoid catching the virus yourself and to avoid passing it on to others.

- Stay home as much as possible. Avoid unnecessary travel or public places.
- Avoid social gatherings in groups of more than 10.
- Choose drive-thru, take-out, or delivery options, or outdoor seating, if available, when dining in.
- Send only one healthy adult from the household run necessary errands, such as getting groceries or picking up medications. Leave children, elderly, and other vulnerable people at home as much as possible. When returning home from an errand, wash your hands before doing anything else.
- Older adults and people with chronic medical conditions are at higher risk of getting very sick from this illness. People at high risk should stay at home as much as possible.
- Create a household plan of action, <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/checklisthousehold-ready.html>
- Ensure a 30-day supply of all medicines.

seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.

- Avoiding touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Limiting visitors

CHCC appreciates the patience and understanding of the community at this time. To obtain general information about the CNMI COVID-19 response, contact the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force Hotline at 287-0046, 287-0489, 287-1089. These numbers are available Monday to Sunday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For medical information about COVID-19, reach out to the COVID-19 Infoline at the following numbers: 285-1672/1352. These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For mental health support and helpful tips during a crisis, call the Mental Health Support Line at 285-1856, 323-6560, 323-6561. These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30 pm. For the 24/7 Disaster Distress Helpline, call SAMSHA at 1-800-985-5990.

For more information about DIY face coverings, visit <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover.html>

For more information about CHCC programs, follow CHCC on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter at @cnmichcc, check out our website at [www.chcc.gov.mp](http://www.chcc.gov.mp) or call us at (670) 234-8950.

For more information on the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force, visit [www.governor.gov.mp](http://www.governor.gov.mp) and, follow @GovernorCNMI on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

This health advisory may be found online at <http://www.chcc.gov.mp/pressrelease.html> and at [www.governor.gov.mp/covid-19](http://www.governor.gov.mp/covid-19).

### Rumor control

During crises like this, oftentimes the spread of misinformation is just as dangerous as the virus itself. The CNMI is reminded to only share official and verified notices, press releases, and advisories from the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and CHCC.

Source: Office of the Governor

MICRONESIA			▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Mainly sunny	91   81	°F
Palau	Showers	85   78	°F
Yap	Partly cloudy	85   74	°F
Chuuk	Partly cloudy	86   80	°F
Pohnpei	Partly cloudy	86   79	°F
Kosrae	Partly cloudy	86   80	°F
Majuro	Thunderstorms	84   80	°F

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	5:46 AM	6:46 PM
Friday	5:46 AM	6:47 PM
Saturday	5:46 AM	6:47 PM
Sunday	5:46 AM	6:47 PM
Monday	5:46 AM	6:47 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	5:20 AM	6:38 PM	-
Friday	6:06 AM	7:31 PM	-
Saturday	6:56 AM	8:23 PM	-
Sunday	7:48 AM	9:13 PM	-
Monday	8:42 AM	10:01 PM	-

AROUND THE GLOBE			▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Mainly sunny	59   49	°F
Beijing	Thunderstorms	90   77	°F
Hong Kong	Partly cloudy	86   81	°F
Honolulu	Partly cloudy	85   74	°F
London	Rain	68   57	°F
Los Angeles	Mainly sunny	75   61	°F
Manila	Thunderstorms	87   78	°F
Melbourne	Cloudy	56   42	°F
Miami	Thunderstorms	85   77	°F
New York	Sunny	82   66	°F
Osaka	Partly cloudy	84   60	°F
Paris	Rain	73   57	°F
Pusan	Sunny	87   65	°F
Rome	Sunny	86   63	°F
Salem	Partly cloudy	65   49	°F
San Francisco	Overcast	66   53	°F
Seoul	Partly cloudy	80   62	°F
Tokyo	Partly cloudy	82   66	°F
Washington, DC	Sunny	82   60	°F

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY			FEET
1:43 AM	Low Tide	1.38	
6:30 AM	High Tide	1.91	
1:56 PM	Low Tide	-0.03	
9:09 PM	High Tide	1.94	

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 20, 2021									
DEPARTURES					ARRIVALS				
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)					GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN				
UA117	6:30am	7:10am	1, 3, 5, 6,		UA174	4:50am	5:31am	1, 3, 5, 6,	
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)					MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN				
UA117/183	6:30am	8:50pm	5 via Guam		UA184/174	9:50pm	5:31am+1	5 via Guam	
GUAM-MANILA (MNL)					MANILA (MNL)-GUAM				
UA183	7:05pm	8:50pm	5		UA184	9:50pm	3:45am+1	5	
UA183	7:15pm	9:10pm	1, 3,		UA184	10:25pm	4:10am+1	1, 3	
LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. <i>(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)</i>									

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.							
FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 18, 2021							
SAIPAN TO ROTA				1202	8:00	8:15	Daily
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	1203	9:00	9:15	Daily
1301	8:30AM	9:00AM	Daily	1204	10:00	10:15	Daily
1302	11:00AM	11:30AM	Daily	1205	11:00	11:15	Daily
1303	1:30PM	2:00PM	Tues/Wed/ Thurs/Fri	1206	12:00	12:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1304	3:30PM	4:00PM	Daily	1207	13:00	13:15	Temporarily Unavailable
ROTA TO SAIPAN				1208	14:00	14:15	Daily
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	1209	15:00	15:15	Daily
3101	9:30AM	10:00AM	Daily	1210	16:00	16:15	Daily
3102	12:00AM	12:30AM	Daily	1211	17:00	17:15	Daily
3103	1:30PM	3:00PM	Tues/Wed/ Thurs/Fri	1212	17:00	17:15	Temporarily Unavailable
3104	4:30PM	5:00PM	Daily	TINIAN TO SAIPAN			
ROTA TO GUAM				FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	2101	7:30	7:45	Temporarily Unavailable
3401	12:15	12:45	Temporarily Unavailable	2102	8:30	8:45	Daily
GUAM TO ROTA				2103	9:30	9:45	Daily
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	2104	10:30	10:45	Daily
4301	13:00	13:30	Temporarily Unavailable	2105	11:30	11:45	Daily
SAIPAN TO TINIAN				2106	12:30	12:45	Temporarily Unavailable
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	2107	13:30	13:45	Temporarily Unavailable
1201	7:00	7:15	Temporarily Unavailable	2108	14:30	14:45	Daily
				2109	15:30	15:45	Daily
				2110	16:30	16:45	Daily
				2111	17:30	17:45	Daily
				2112	18:30	18:45	Temporarily Unavailable

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Business

Zaabder Thai Snack Bar opens in Kobler

By MARK RABAGO  
mark\_rabago@saipantribune.com  
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Foodies in the southern part of Saipan rejoiced after Zaabder Thai Snack Bar recently opened across Hannam Supermarket in Koblerville. The island's newest snack bar serves authentic Thai food like pad Thai, gaeng daeng (red curry with choice of chicken or shrimp), sua rong Thai (Thai-style barbecue beef

with homemade sauce), khai jiao (Thai-style fried egg), kuay tiew tomyum (savory noodle soup with a choice of pork or seafood topped with peanuts), and todd moo (Thai-style fried pork)—all at affordable prices. Owner Monita Phonsan Paul, a graduate of Saipan Southern High School, said she opened the new business out of necessity after the COVID-19 pandemic rendered her parents jobless. “Right when I turned 19, I



Zaabder Thai Snack Bar's sua rong Thai or Thai-style barbecue beef with homemade sauce.

Texas governor says power grid fixed; experts cite problems

AUSTIN, Texas (AP)—Despite experts who say Texas' power grid remains vulnerable, Republican Gov. Greg Abbott declared Tuesday that new reforms “fix all of the flaws” that caused February's deadly winter blackout that left more than 4 million people without power in subfreezing weather. He was joined by Republicans who defended it as a good deal for consumers, even though they gave no direct financial relief to families who were stuck with high energy bills or lost income as the lights and heat stayed off for days. Signing into law two sweeping overhauls in response to one of the largest power outages in U.S. history, Abbott asserted that he and the GOP-controlled Texas Legislature had delivered following one of the worst crises in his six years as governor. But even members of his own party say there is work still to be done.

More than 4 million people lost power when temperatures plunged into single digits over Valentine Day's weekend, icing power generators and buckling the state's electric grid. State officials say they have confirmed at least 151 deaths blamed on the freeze and resulting outages, but the real toll is believed to be higher. “The legislature passed comprehensive reforms to fix all of the flaws that led to the power failure,” Abbott said. He went on to add, “Bottom line is that everything that needed to be done was done to fix the power grid in Texas.” Energy experts disagree, saying that although lawmakers made significant changes that include mandates to “weatherize” power plants for extreme temperatures and new processes to avert communication failures, the reforms do not go far enough to assure a similar catastrophe won't happen again in one of America's most booming states.



Zaabder Thai Snack Bar is located right across Hannam Supermarket in Koblerville.

started to build this business with the help and advice of my parents. This business is like a savior for our family because both of my parents don't have jobs due to the pandemic,” said Paul, a first year BS Biology major at the University of Guam who is currently on Saipan due to the pandemic. The term “zaabder” means “delicious” in the Thai-Isaan language, hence the name of her business. Paul said their location in Koblerville is ideal

because there's not much businesses selling food in the southern part of Saipan. “The community has been thrilled and excited because we are one of the first restaurants to open in the southern end of the island. Now residents of the southside don't have to drive across the island to get delicious food,” she said. Paul admitted that juggling school and operating a new business has been a challenge,

For more information or to order, call 285-4481.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO  
Zaabder Thai Snack Bar's pad Thai.

Global sting began by creating message service for crooks

SAN DIEGO (AP)—When the FBI dismantled an encrypted messaging service based in Canada in 2018, agents noticed users moving to other networks. Instead of following their tracks to rivals, investigators decided on a new tactic: creating their own service. ANOM, a secure-messaging service built by the FBI and other law enforcement agencies, launched in October 2019 and solidified its following after authorities took down another rival. Popularity spread by word of mouth. When ANOM was taken down Monday, authorities had collected more than 27 million messages from about 12,000 devices in 45 languages—a

vast body of evidence that fueled a global sting operation. Authorities on Tuesday revealed the operation known as Trojan Shield and announced that it had dealt an “unprecedented blow” to organized crime around the world. “Each and every device in this case was used to further criminal activity,” said Suzanne Turner, the agent in charge of the FBI in San Diego, where the investigation began in 2016. Users were “upper-echelon, command-and-control” figures in more than 300 criminal organizations. Unbeknown to criminals, authorities were copied on every message sent on the FBI

devices, much like blind recipients of an email. “The very devices that criminals use to hide their crimes were actually a beacon for law enforcement,” Randy Grossman, the acting U.S. attorney in San Diego, said at a news conference. More than 800 suspects were arrested and more than 32 tons of drugs seized, including cocaine, cannabis, amphetamines and methamphetamines. Police also seized 250 guns, 55 luxury cars and more than \$148 million in cash and cryptocurrencies. An indictment unsealed Tuesday in San Diego named 17 foreign distributors charged with racketeering conspiracy.

but it's something she's willing to tackle head on. “It has been hard and stressful. But this is part of life. It is part of growing up and stepping into the real world. It is the reality of ‘adulting.’ I'm 19 and currently an amateur in almost everything that deals with ‘adulting,’ but I can't let that be a setback and the reason why I won't persevere,” she said. Zaabder Thai Snack Bar, which opened last May 31, currently only has take-out service. In addition to their usual snack- and meal-size offerings, they also accept platter orders. Their most popular dish is the sua rong Thai and they also serve shakes, smoothies, Thai milk tea, and Thai green tea. Zaabder Thai Snack Bar plans to open for dine-in at month's end. Zaabder Thai Snack Bar is open every day, Monday-Sunday, from 10am to 2pm for lunch and from 5pm to 8pm for dinner, take-out only. For more information or to order, call 285-4481. They can also be found on Facebook under “zaabder snack bar.” The seeds of the sting were sown when law enforcement agencies took down a company called Phantom Secure that provided customized end-to-end encrypted devices to criminals, according to court papers. Unlike typical cellphones, the devices do not make phone calls or browse the internet—but allow for secure messaging. As an outgrowth of the operation, the FBI recruited a collaborator who was developing a next-generation secure-messaging platform for the criminal underworld called ANOM. The collaborator engineered the system to give the agency access to any messages being sent.

STOCK  
PORTFOLIO

LEADING INDICATORS

S&P  
4,225.25  
-0.50  
-0.01%

DOW  
34,584.00  
-2.00  
-0.01%

NASDAQ  
13,814.00  
+2.50  
+0.02%

EXCHANGE RATES

Hong Kong Dollar	7.76	Russian Ruble	72.28
Australian Dollar	1.29	Singapore Dollar	1.32
British Pound	0.7064	South Korean Won	1,117.90
Canadian Dollar	1.21	Swiss Franc	0.8968
Chinese Yuan	6.40	Taiwan Dollar	27.71
Euro	0.8215	Thailand Baht	31.21
Japanese Yen	109.51		
Malaysian Ringgit	4.12		
New Zealand Dollar	1.39		
Philippine Peso	47.75		



# Nation

## Harris tells Latin Americans the US can offer them hope

**MEXICO CITY (AP)**—Vice President Kamala Harris sought to assure poor and threatened populations of Latin America on Tuesday that the United States has “the capacity to give people a sense of hope” in the region so they can make better lives without fleeing to the U.S. border.

Harris closed her first foreign trip as vice president unapologetic for her decision not to visit the U.S.-Mexico border as part of her mission to address migration to the United States.

“If you want to address the needs of a people, you must meet those people, you must spend time with those people, because the only way you can actually fix the problem is to understand the problem,” she told a news conference before the flight to Washington.

Earlier she brushed off questions about her decision not to go to the border as part of her work to address the spike in migration, saying that while it was “legitimate” to be concerned about the situation there, it wouldn’t be addressed with a simple visit.

“It must be priority for us to understand why people leave,” she told the news conference. “I cannot say it enough. Most people don’t want to leave home.”

Harris engaged in two days of diplomacy in Guatemala and Mexico as part of the Biden administration’s effort to stem the flow of people into the U.S. She met with Guatemala’s and Mexico’s presidents to discuss economic investments and increased enforcement against trafficking, smuggling and corruption.

The increase in migration at the border has become one of



**AP**  
Vice President Kamala Harris and Guatemala’s Minister of Foreign Affairs Pedro Brolo wave at her arrival ceremony in Guatemala City, Sunday, June 6, 2021, at Guatemalan Air Force Central Command.

table with labor leaders in Mexico before heading back to Washington.

Her brief foray brought her first to Guatemala on Monday. While in Guatemala, she met President Alejandro Giammattei. To coincide with their meeting, the Biden administration announced a number of new commitments to combat trafficking, smuggling, and corruption, as well as investments in economic development in the country.

But some Democrats criticized the vice president Monday when she delivered a direct message to those considering leaving their homes and making the often dangerous trek to the U.S. border: “Do not come.”

the major challenges confronting Biden in the early months of his first term, with Republicans seizing on an issue they see as politically advantageous. Polls suggest Americans are less favorable toward Biden’s approach to immigration than they are toward his policies on the economy and the COVID-19 pandemic.

They’ve tried to make Harris the face of that immigration policy, charging she and Biden are ignoring the issue because both have yet to visit the southern border. Harris told reporters she was focused on “tangible” results “as opposed to grand gestures.”

Harris and her aides have sought to make clear that her

mission was narrowly focused on finding diplomatic solutions to the problem at the border.

Without being asked to judge the result, she told the news conference: “Do I declare this trip a success? Yes I do. It is a success in terms of the pathway that is about progress. We have been successful in making progress.”

After her meeting with Mexican President Andrés Manuel López Obrador, the administration announced a range of agreements brokered between the two governments, including a \$130 million commitment over the next three years from the U.S. to support labor reforms in Mexico and loans to bolster southern Mexico’s

economy.

The administration said the meeting produced an agreement to have an economic dialogue in September on trade, telecommunications and supply chains. And the two countries will also partner on human trafficking and economic programs addressing why people leave El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras for the U.S.

Harris told López Obrador at the start of their meeting that the two nations are “embarking on a new era” and emphasized the longstanding “interdependence and interconnection” of the two nations.

Harris also met female entrepreneurs and held a round-

## Man charged with murder of boy in road-rage shooting

**SANTA ANA, Calif. (AP)**—A man was charged Tuesday with murder in a Southern California road rage shooting that killed a 6-year-old boy on a freeway last month, stunning the region and attracting national attention.

Prosecutors in Orange County charged Marcus Anthony Eriz, 24, with murder in the death of Aiden Leos, shooting at an occupied vehicle and with sentencing enhancements. Eriz’s girlfriend, Wynne Lee, was charged with being an accessory after the fact and illegally carrying a concealed firearm.

Authorities said they believe Lee was driving the car and that Eriz fired the shot that killed Leos while his mother was driving the boy to kindergarten on May 21 in Orange County, southeast of Los Angeles.

“With respect to the charges against both, I absolutely am convinced they’re rock solid,” Orange County District Attorney Todd Spitzer told reporters.

The couple appeared for a Superior Court hearing via video Tuesday but didn’t enter a plea. Their arraignment was postponed to June 18 and a judge set their bail at \$2 million for Eriz and \$500,000 for Lee pending that hearing.

Eriz could face 40 years

to life in prison if convicted on all counts. Lee faces up to three years in prison and one year in county jail.

The case drew widespread outrage in the county of 3 million people. At least \$500,000 in rewards had been offered from around the U.S. for information leading to an arrest and authorities said they received hundreds of tips before the couple was arrested Sunday in the city of Costa Mesa.

According to accounts from Leos’ mother and witnesses who stopped to help her after the shooting, another car cut her off and she responded with a hand gesture and the car slipped in behind her and someone inside fired a shot through the rear of her car.

California Highway Patrol officials have said that the road rage violence stemmed from “a perceived unsafe lane change.”

Eriz and Lee were arrested Sunday outside of their apartment in Costa Mesa.

Local elected officials on Tuesday thanked community members for raising the reward money and calling in tips to help solve the case.

“In a civilized community, we should be able to drive our kid to school and not worry that they’re going to be shot in the back,” said Orange County Supervisor Katrina Foley.

## US increasingly unlikely to meet Biden’s July 4 vax goal

**WASHINGTON (AP)**—For months, President Joe Biden has laid out goal after goal for taming the coronavirus pandemic and then exceeded his own benchmarks. Now, though, the U.S. is unlikely to meet his target to have 70% of Americans at least partially vaccinated by July 4.

The White House has launched a month-long blitz to combat vaccine hesitancy and a lack of urgency to get shots, particularly in the South and Midwest, but it is increasingly resigned to missing the president’s vaccination target. The administration insists that even if the goal isn’t reached, it will have little effect on the overall U.S. recovery, which is already ahead of where Biden said it

would be months ago.

About 15.5 million unvaccinated adults need to receive at least one dose in the next four weeks for Biden to meet his goal. But the pace of new vaccinations in the U.S. has dropped below 400,000 people per day—down from a high of nearly 2 million per day two months ago.

Dr. Anthony Fauci, the nation’s top infectious disease expert, told reporters at a briefing on Tuesday that he still hopes the goal will be met “and if we don’t, we’re going to continue to keep pushing.”

So far 14 states have reached 70% coverage among adults, with about a dozen more on pace to reach the milestone by July 4. But the state-to-state variation is stark.

Fauci said the administration is “pleading” with states, particularly those with low vaccination rates, to step up their efforts in the coming months, though some of the states trailing behind are hardly sharing the urgency.

On a conference call Tuesday, White House COVID-19 coordinator Jeff Zients delivered an impassioned call for governors to join the administration in “pulling out all the stops” on vaccinations this month. “We need your leadership on the ground — which is where it matters the most — more than ever,” he said.

In Mississippi, which trails the nation with only about 34% of its population vaccinated, Republican Gov. Tate Reeves has called Biden’s goal

“arbitrary, to say the least.”

The vaccination rate in the state has dropped off so sharply that it would take the better part of a year for the state to reach the 70% target.

Speaking to CNN on Sunday, Reeves said he encouraged residents to get vaccinated, but that the more important marker was the decline in cases in the state.

That sentiment makes winning over people like University of Mississippi student Mary Crane all the more important to Biden meeting his goal. She hasn’t felt much urgency to get the COVID-19 vaccine because she’s already had the virus, and the family she’s living with during the summer break has been vaccinated.



# Asia

## IN PAKISTAN TRAIN COLLISION

### Official: Death toll rises to 65

**GHOTKI, Pakistan** (AP)—The death toll from a horrific collision of two trains in southern Pakistan rose to 65 on Tuesday after rescuers pulled 15 more bodies from crumpled cars a day after the crash, government officials said.

The collision took place on a dilapidated railway track in Ghotki, a district in Sindh province, when an express train barreled into another that had derailed minutes earlier before dawn Monday.

Most of the passengers—there were about 1,100 on both trains—were asleep when the Millat Express, traveling between the southern port city of Karachi to Sargodha in eastern Punjab province, derailed and many of its cars overturned. As passengers scrambled to get out, another passenger train, the Sir Syed Express, crashed into the derailed coaches.

Rescue work continued throughout the day Monday, overnight and into Tuesday. Bodies of passengers killed in the crash were taken to their hometowns for burial.

Shafiq Ahmed Mahisar, commissioner in Sukkar district, said all the bodies had

been retrieved after the overnight efforts. Besides the 65 passengers who died, more than 100 passengers were injured, he said.

Army engineers and soldiers dispatched from a nearby military base assisted in the rescue and heavy machinery arrived in Ghotki hours later to cut open some train cars. Engineers restored rail service after repairing the track where the accident happened, a statement released by the railway said.

Senior railway official Arshad Khan said Tuesday an initial investigation into the crash suggested the Millat Express derailed because a recently welded joint of the track broke.

Aijaz Ahmed, the driver of the Sir Syed Express, said Monday he braked when he saw the disabled train but did not have time to avoid the collision.

The more critically injured were transported to hospitals with better facilities in Sindh and also Punjab province, while those more stable were being treated in Ghotki hospital, said deputy commissioner Usman Abdullah, who also confirmed the 65 fatalities.

Ata Mohammad, a pas-

senger, said he was asleep on the Millat Express when it derailed. He woke up to a big jolt and saw other passengers trying to climb out from overturned and derailed coaches. Then the other train hit.

"I feel as if I am still hearing cries," said a weeping Mohammad, who lost family members in the crash.

Sher Muhammad, a 45-year-old farmer, was working on his land when he saw a train derail on the tracks some distance away. He rushed to the scene but before he could reach it, the second train crashed into the first.

"I don't know whether I will be able to forget that tragic scene," Muhammad said, recounting how he saw women, children and men crying for help.

Villagers who reached the scene first started helping the victims, pulling the injured and the dead from the wreckage until ambulances started coming.

Azam Swati, the country's railways minister, said action will be taken against those whose negligence caused the collision. Earlier, the military said the rescue operation was completed by noon Tuesday.

### China pledges further COVID-19 aid to Southeast Asia

**BEIJING** (AP)—China on Tuesday pledged further assistance to Southeast Asian nations in battling the coronavirus pandemic as it seeks to boost influence with the region where the United States is also looking to strengthen ties.

Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi told his counterparts from the 10-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations that China had already delivered 100 million vaccine doses to ASEAN nations along with other pandemic-fighting materials and technical help.

Wang likened the challenge to earlier economic crises, the 2003 SARS outbreak and the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami, saying all were faced with "practical action arising from feelings of brotherly concern and the care of watchful neighbors."

"In the process of jointly overcoming challenges, we have deepened friendship, mutual trust and common interests," Wang told the ministers, assembled in the southwestern Chinese megacity of Chongqing for meetings marking the 30th anniversary of formal relations between China and ASEAN.

Beijing has been building

influence with ASEAN, despite frictions with some members of the bloc over competing territorial claims in the South China Sea. China's construction of islands and its military operations in the sea have brought complaints Beijing is militarizing the waterway.

China's economic and diplomatic heft has helped override such concerns, however, while the bloc has been unable to form a unified stand in the face of opposition from Chinese allies within it, primarily Cambodia.

Wang said Tuesday that the sides should explore establishing an expert panel to strengthen cooperation throughout the vaccine process, from research to use, and work to build production and distribution centers to help make vaccines affordable and accessible in the region.

He said China would "urgently implement" the China-ASEAN Public Health Cooperation Initiative, continue to support the ASEAN Emergency Medical Materials Reserve and strengthen regional public health capacity-building.

"China will work with ASEAN to overcome the outbreak as soon as possible," Wang said.

Though COVID-19 was first detected in China in late 2019, the nation has largely stamped out domestic transmission, although it has been accused of insufficient transparency or even seeking to conceal the origins of the pandemic.

Wang made no direct reference to Myanmar, an ASEAN member where the military seized power Feb. 1 and has cracked down on widespread opposition to the coup. On Monday, he said China supported ASEAN's non-interventionist approach.

China has also been criticized for building dams upstream on the Mekong River, affecting water levels and fisheries downstream on a waterway that is crucial to the economies of several Southeast Asian nations.

Foreign Ministry Zhao Lijian defended China's policies on management of the river, known as the Lancang in China. Beijing attached "great importance to the concerns of downstream countries," had released water to help countries dealing with drought and was willing to work with them on how best to promote sustainable use of water resources, Zhao told reporters at a daily briefing later Tuesday.

# World

## UK URGES EU TO:

### Show 'common sense' in post-Brexit talks

**LONDON** (AP)—The U.K.'s chief negotiator called on the European Union to show "pragmatism and common sense," instead of threatening to retaliate, as the two sides meet to resolve differences over the deal that was supposed to keep trade flowing after Brexit.

David Frost made the comments after his EU counterpart said the bloc was ready to act "firmly and resolutely" if the U.K. fails to honor its commitments under the divorce agreement. The two men are scheduled to meet Wednesday in London amid rising tensions over implementation of the deal in Northern Ireland, the only part of the U.K. that shares a land border with the bloc.

Central to the talks are provisions of the deal that effectively created a customs border between Northern Ireland and the rest of the U.K., angering many pro-British residents of the island. While Britain has called for compromise, the EU says the new rules are needed to protect the bloc's single market.

Both sides fear the tensions could fuel a return to violence in Northern Ireland. "Further threats of legal



In this file photo dated Tuesday, April 27, 2021, European Commissioner for Inter-institutional Relations and Foresight Maros Sefcovic speaks during a debate at the European Parliament in Brussels.

action and trade retaliation from the EU won't make life any easier for the shopper in Strabane who can't buy their favorite product," Frost said, referring to a town in Northern Ireland. "What is needed is pragmatism and common sense solutions to resolve the issues as they are before us. This work is important, and it is ever more urgent."

The divorce deal, which took effect on Jan. 1, included a number of grace periods that gave Britain time to put in place new systems to check a variety of goods coming into Northern Ireland to ensure they comply with EU rules. Those grace

periods are now ending, causing headaches for businesses and consumers in Northern Ireland.

The U.K. angered Brussels earlier this year when it unilaterally extended the grace period covering many supermarket items, delaying the required inspections for six months. The EU has threatened legal action over that decision.

The Daily Telegraph, a British newspaper, reported Tuesday that the U.K. may also extend the grace period covering chilled meats such as sausages and ground beef, which is scheduled to end at the end of this month.

### Trudeau denounces truck attack that targeted Muslim family

**TORONTO** (AP)—A pickup truck attack that killed four members of an immigrant family has shaken Canada, a country where immigrants are largely accepted, and drew denunciations Tuesday from Canada's prime minister, who called it a hate crime directed at Muslims.

The victims—two parents, two children and a grandmother—were on an evening walk when the driver of the truck struck them at an intersection in London, Ontario. The sole survivor was a 9-year-old boy, who was hospitalized.

"This was a terrorist attack, motivated by hatred, in the heart of one of our communities," Prime Minister Justin Trudeau told Parliament. "If anyone thinks racism and hatred don't exist in this country, I want to say this: How do we explain such violence to a child in a hospital? How can we look families in the eye and say 'Islamophobia isn't real'?"

The victims' extended family issued a statement identifying the dead as

Salman Afzal, 46; his wife Madiha, 44; their daughter Yumna, 15; and a 74-year-old grandmother whose name was withheld. The hospitalized boy was identified as the couple's son, Fayeze. Friends said the family immigrated to Canada 14 years ago.

Many Canadians have been enjoying evening walks to get fresh air after long days at home during the pandemic, Trudeau said.

"But unlike every other night, this family never made it home," Trudeau said. "Their lives were taken in a brutal, cowardly and brazen act of violence. This killing was no accident. ... Canadians are outraged by what happened on Sunday. And many Muslim Canadians are scared."

Trudeau said words matter and in part blamed rhetoric, disinformation and extremism online and in politics.

"They can be a seed that grows into an ugly, pervasive trend. And sometimes, they lead to real violence," the prime minister said.

Pakistan Prime Minister

Imran Khan said on Twitter that the attack revealed the growing Islamophobia in Western countries.

A 20-year-old suspect, Nathaniel Veltman, was arrested in the parking lot of a nearby mall. He was facing four counts of first-degree murder. Police were inside the suspect's London apartment on Tuesday.

Police said Veltman did not know the victims. Detective Supt. Paul Waight said it was not clear if he belonged to any specific hate group, but that local police were working with federal authorities to investigate potential terrorism charges. He said the attack was planned.

Veltman worked part time at an egg farm in nearby Strathroy, Ontario. The chief executive of Gray Ridge Eggs Inc., William Gray, gave no details about Veltman's job. He said the company was "shocked and saddened" by the attack, and he expressed sympathy for the victims' relatives and the Muslim community.



# Environment

By IVA MAURIN

iva\_maurin@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

While waiting for her group to begin painting the pole in front of Guma Sakman in Susupe, Anastacia Minor started sharing her insights on nature and its interconnectedness, the importance of taking care of our environment, and on what she thinks officials should do to ensure that even generations after her would have a place to call home.

Minor, from ChaCha Ocean View Middle School, is one of the 12 students participating in this year's Project HOPE (Healthy Oceans and People Empowerment) a no-cost ocean science program of the Friends of the Mariana Trench, aimed at cultivating 30 new indigenous ocean/marine scientists by 2030.

"When you take away one thing, you're not just taking away something, you're taking away the whole. The whole thing is going to fall apart like a puzzle. That's why it's really important to keep [our environment] clean, to help it so it can grow more, so that the next generation can also expand, travel, and tell people about how [home] is like," she added.

Minor particularly stressed how important it is to take care of the ocean given its "trauma" from ships and oil spills, and from people throwing trash. She appealed to officials to "work on people who are not taking care" of the environment, those who are harming home.

"Show them what they're doing to our environment because if they don't, they're just [going to] keep going and going. The environment, it's getting destroyed all over by the people who are not taking care of our environment."

*Saipan Tribune* went to observe Project HOPE's session last Monday, June 7, where Minor with other students, were learning about sea urchins from David Benavente of the Micronesia Islands Nature Alliance. At the session, ocean elder Frances Sablan also shared her knowledge on how sea urchins were traditionally used for chunking by the islands' fishermen.

Project HOPE marries scientific with cultural knowledge, through experiential learning, where students get to know about the oceans, climate change, coral reef life, marine protected areas, mangrove trees, currents and tides, among many others.

## Our ocean is threatened

To spread awareness on ocean conservation, the students helped paint two Project Haligi poles nearest Guma Sakman, under the guidance of Project HOPE's interns, who are members of the Northern Marianas College's Environment and Natural Resources Organization.

One pole was painted with endangered/threatened ocean species in the CNMI, and the other, painted with food fishes on island. Tina Marie Kaneshi, also a student of ChaCha Ocean View, got assigned to paint the latter.

Kaneshi shared with *Saipan Tribune* her frustrations whenever she would see other children litter-

ing in the ocean. "How many times I've seen a kid litter in the ocean and just leave their trash there. It disgusts me. You should pick up your trash. It sucks to just see all the candy wrappers and favors from fiestas in there. They just leave the trash in there and I hate that."

"The environment and the ocean... it's an important thing. It supports most life here, supports the economy as well. Its health has been declining more and more, and if it just keeps declining, it's going to die out and all that past knowledge, all that's in there – all the fish, all the jobs that are about the ocean, it's going to go down," she added.

Rochelle Ramon, one of Project HOPE's interns, spearheaded the painting project so the students can help spread ocean conservation awareness, stressing the importance of the ocean to the community, in terms of coastal protection, food, even to the oxygen that we all breathe.

"We focus on ocean conservation. It is an important project we can move forward with, especially with the kids, just to have them learn more and become more ocean conservative too,

right now and in the future, as they're our future generations."

## 'The best of both worlds'

Through Project HOPE, the students get scientific information from environmental experts, and life and cultural knowledge from ocean elders.

For ocean elder Frances Sablan, the youth get the best of both worlds through Project HOPE. The students do not just know about the theories and the scientific, but they also get to know the culture, which makes ocean learning more relatable and relevant to them and their lives.

"If we don't impart to them the knowledge and the values, then they will not protect [our environment], they won't

conserve, they will just treat it as if it is unimportant. So, by teaching them, hopefully they would realize the value, and why they need to be the protectors and the conservationists," Sablan said.

"I can relate back when I was their age, by going out and helping clean the environment, by collecting bottles or trash along the road, it made me a firm believer that I need to help clean my environment. And I get upset with anyone who trashes it because I experienced a hardship."

Sablan added that this is the kind of sentiment that she wants to pass on to the youth, to have them realize that by being participatory on how to take care of and be

stewards of the land and the ocean, that they really would be active participants, and active movers and shakers.

Hopwood Middle School's Jose Iguel, also a Project HOPE participant, echoes this. For Iguel, what the P

roject is doing is important, stating that "if you learn when you're young, when you get older, that information becomes useful."

What is being learned by the students through Project HOPE could also prove useful to everyone else in the community, and for Sablan, this is particularly true to those who trash, do negative things, and have a carefree attitude on the island.

"They need to also join in," Sablan said. "They also need to be part of the process, because they're the ones that really need to take home the knowledge and the wisdom, and the values. It is important... There is hope. There's a lot of factors that will pull us down in the environment but with this [Project HOPE], and with others that also support the idea and concept, there is [hope]."

To learn more about Project HOPE, and other programs of the Friends of the Mariana Trench, call (670) 483-FOMT (3668), or email



IVA MAURIN  
Project HOPE student participants paint endangered/threatened ocean species on a Project Haligi pole near Guma Sakman in Susupe to increase ocean conservation awareness in the community.



IVA MAURIN  
ChaCha Ocean View Middle School student Anastacia Minor dissecting a sea urchin as Project HOPE ocean elders Chailang Palacios and Frances Sablan look on.



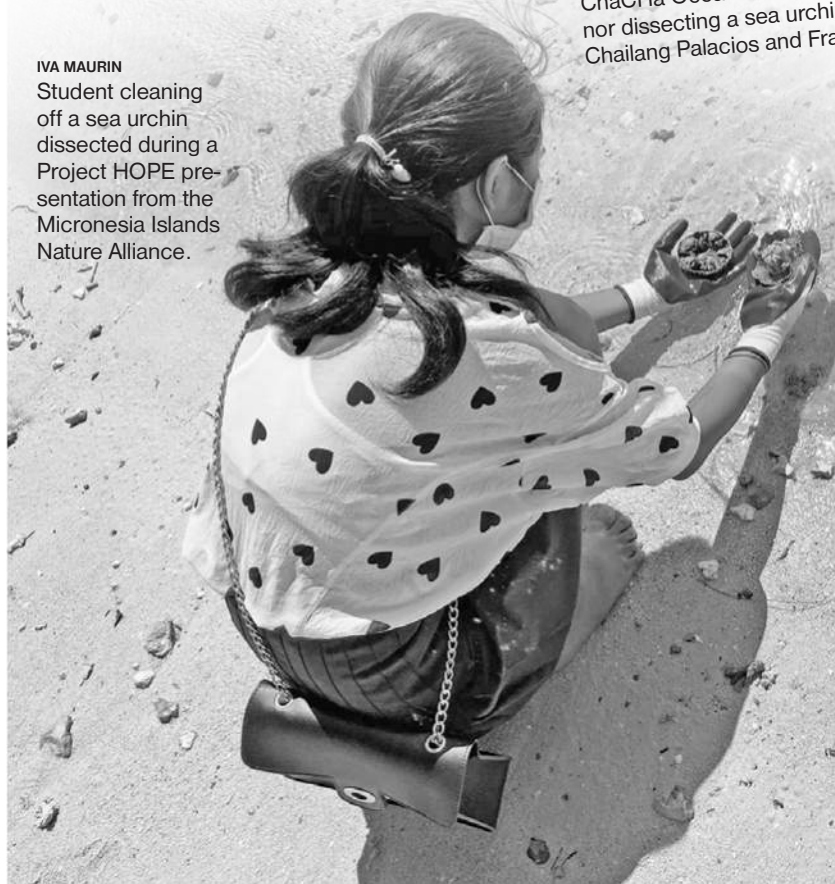
IVA MAURIN  
David Benavente of the Micronesia Islands Nature Alliance shows the student participants of Project HOPE how to dissect a sea urchin last Monday, June 7, at Guma Sakman in Susupe.

## FRIENDS OF THE MARIANA TRENCH'S PROJECT HOPE:

Building the CNMI's future

ocean  
conservationists

IVA MAURIN  
Student cleaning off a sea urchin dissected during a Project HOPE presentation from the Micronesia Islands Nature Alliance.





# Life & Style

## Everything in New York is bigger, even its Van Gogh exhibit

**NEW YORK (AP)**—A massive, immersive exhibition celebrating artist Vincent van Gogh has leaned on some Broadway talent for a little razzle dazzle during its visit to New York City.

Producers of “Immersive Van Gogh” have tapped Tony- and Emmy Award-winning set designer David Korins for creative help after they secured a jaw-dropping 70,000-square-foot venue for their exhibit in lower Manhattan, easily the biggest space the exhibit has landed.

“They wanted something bigger, fancier, deeper,” said Korins, who has designed sets for “Hamilton” and “Dear Evan Hansen” and is a lifelong fan of Van Gogh. “I wanted to really try and find a way to help people in 2021 see him

more as a human.”

Korins has added a ceiling installation that uses almost 8,000 paint brushes to thrillingly reproduce “The Starry Night,” a station that uses artificial intelligence to give visitors an individualized letter from Van Gogh, a chance to co-create a work with him on their phones, and booths that explore the artist’s synesthesia.

Corey Ross, the lead producer of “Immersive Van Gogh,” said the show leans into every place it lands in and New York was the biggest challenge of any city the show has visited.

“The question was, really, how do we bring in the essence of New York?” he said. “And of course, David Korins is someone whose work I love



and he’s the top guy. So he was the first call.”

Some elements of Korins’ work are expected to be added to upcoming visits to other cities. The exhibition has already

been presented in San Francisco, Chicago, Toronto and Paris and plans are to expand to more than a dozen cities across North America, including Los Angeles, Dallas, Den-

**AP**  
Projections of selected works of celebrated painter Vincent Van Gogh are displayed at a preview of the Immersive Van Gogh exhibit at Pier 36, Friday, June 4, 2021, in New York.

ver, Las Vegas, Minneapolis and Pittsburgh.

The heart of the show is the same in each city—a 38-minute digital film projected across the hulking space that dynamically and elegantly weave images from Van Gogh’s paintings on the walls and ground to a soundtrack of gentle electronic music and ethereal piano. Those parts were designed by Massimil-

iano Siccaldi, with original music by Luca Longobardi.

The show’s arrival in New York comes as the city emerges from a lockdown that shut down cultural events and art crowds. “I feel like this is a huge, bright beacon of hope for arts in New York,” said Korins.

All visitors must wear masks and social distancing cues are sprinkled throughout the exhibit. Korins made sure nothing needed to be touched, perhaps except for visitors’ cellphones. He said it’s fitting that Van Gogh was often isolated: “He is a perfect artist and this is a perfect time because we’ve all been wrestling with isolation.”

## Sheryl Underwood of ‘The Talk’ to host Daytime Emmys

**LOS ANGELES (AP)**—Sheryl Underwood of “The Talk” will host the Daytime Emmy Awards.

She’ll preside over the 48th annual ceremony on June 25 in Los Angeles. Underwood co-hosted last year’s virtual show that aired on CBS with former “The Talk” colleagues Sharon Osborne, Eve, Carrie Ann Inaba and Marie Osmond. Inaba is currently on leave from the show.

CBS said Tuesday that talent will appear onstage, as well as from the studios of various shows and homes to accept their trophies. Some winners



**Underwood**

will be announced during the show via social media.

Among the nominees are Alex Trebek and Larry King, both deceased.

Trebek, who died in November, will compete in the game show host category, which he most recently won in 2019 and last year for “Jeopardy!” King, who died in January, received a nod in the informative talk show host category for his eponymous Ora TV broadcast.

Awards for daytime children’s and lifestyle programming, and animation will be handed out in separate ceremonies in July.

**LOS ANGELES (AP)**—Chris Harrison, the original host of ABC’s “The Bachelor” and its spinoffs, is leaving the long-running franchise.

His departure comes four months after he defended contestant Rachael Kirkconnell against criticism over 2018 photos showing her at a fraternity formal with an Old South plantation theme.

Harrison is “stepping aside

as host of ‘The Bachelor’ franchise. We are thankful for his many contributions over the past 20 years and wish him all the best on his new journey,” Warner Horizon and ABC Entertainment said in a joint statement Tuesday.

The producer and the network had no further comment,



**Harrison**

including on a replacement for Harrison. His publicist didn’t immediately respond to a request for comment.

Harrison faced backlash after he voiced support for Kirkconnell during an “Extra” interview last February with Rachel Lindsay, who had been on “The Bache-

lorette” and was the first Black star of the franchise that began in 2002.

In a subsequent online statement, Harrison apologized for what he called a “mistake.” While he had only intended to ask for “grace” and compassion for Kirkconnell so she could address the issue, Harrison said, he realized he had caused harm by “speaking in a manner that perpetuates racism.”

## Kemper apologizes for role with group that had racist past

**ST. LOUIS (AP)**—Actress Ellie Kemper has apologized for participating in a debutante ball hosted by a St. Louis organization that she now says had “an unquestionably racist, sexist and elitist past.”

The 41-year-old St. Louis native and star of TV’s “Un-

breakable Kimmy Schmidt” was criticized on Twitter after it was revealed that when she was 19, she was named “Queen of Love and Beauty” at St. Louis’ Veiled Prophet Ball.

The Veiled Prophet Organization dates to the late 1800s. It didn’t allow Black members

until 1979. Daughters of many prominent St. Louis families have held the same title as Kemper, whose family founded Commerce Bancshares.

Kemper, who rose to fame on TV’s “The Office,” said on Instagram that she was unaware at the time of the history

of the Veiled Prophet, but “ignorance is no excuse.”

The Veiled Prophet Organization put out its own statement saying it “acknowledges our past and recognizes the criticism levied our way.” The statement said that the organization today “rejects racism, in any form.”

## Woman spurred to action by grandkids’ plight

**DEAR ABBY:** I have a grandson (25) and granddaughter (22) who are both extremely overweight (300 pounds each). They not only have health issues, but also mental issues. Both work part time at the same company as their mom and dad—and still live at home. They don’t date, don’t drive and are very dependent on their parents because their parents encourage it. My granddaughter is being treated with meds; my grandson is not.

I’m very close to him, and he shares a lot with me. He has issues with both of his parents, but more so with his mom. They were raised in a VERY Christian home. There were always weight issues for the entire family because they eat most of their meals out. My daughter-in-law rarely cooks, and the house resembles a “Hoarders” home.

In the past, I tried talking with my son and his wife but they have a convenient excuse for everything I bring up. During my last conversation with my grandson, he was so unhappy he mentioned suicide. PLEASE can you help me? How can I get through to my son and his wife?

DISTRAUGHT GRANDMA IN TEXAS

**DEAR GRANDMA:** Do your son and his wife know their son is depressed to the point of talking about suicide? If they are unaware, put them on notice. While you’re at it, give him the number of the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, 1-800-273-8255.

Because you have already tried talking to his parents

and found them unreceptive, would you consider inviting your grandson to live with you for a while? It would be a way of teaching him healthier eating habits, and if he needs medication, you might be able to see that his doctor prescribes it. Living apart from his parents might also be an incentive for him to become more independent in other ways, such as continuing his education if he is able, which would improve his employment prospects.

**DEAR ABBY:** There is a trend happening these days. Young people live together for several years, get pregnant and go to the justice of the peace to get legally married. Then, a year or more later, they sometimes decide to have a formal wedding ceremony. Friends throw them a shower, and the wedding is often elaborate.

I thought a shower gift or wedding gift was to help the new couple to get their household set up. These couples already have everything in their house. I feel this is a slap in the face of tradition. What are your thoughts?

OLD-FASHIONED

**DEAR OLD-FASHIONED:** Yes, it’s a break with tradition. These changes have occurred because of changes in social mores, the economy and gender roles. The tradition used to involve a young woman going directly from her parents’ house to that of her husband.

More recently, young people have postponed marriage,

## DEAR ABBY

By **ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**  
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



established themselves in the workplace and achieved economic independence before coupling up. This is a positive step because if the marriage fails or the spouse dies, the widowed spouse isn’t left without the tools to support themselves and their family.

While you may think the couple “already has everything they need,” take a peek at their bridal registry because it may be an eye-opener. And remember, if you cannot celebrate happily with the couple, no rule of etiquette dictates that you must attend the wedding.

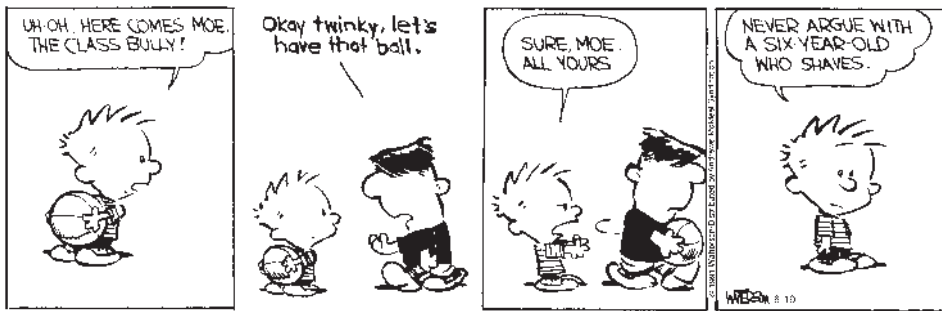
To receive a collection of Abby’s most memorable – and most frequently requested – poems and essays, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby – Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)



# Pastimes

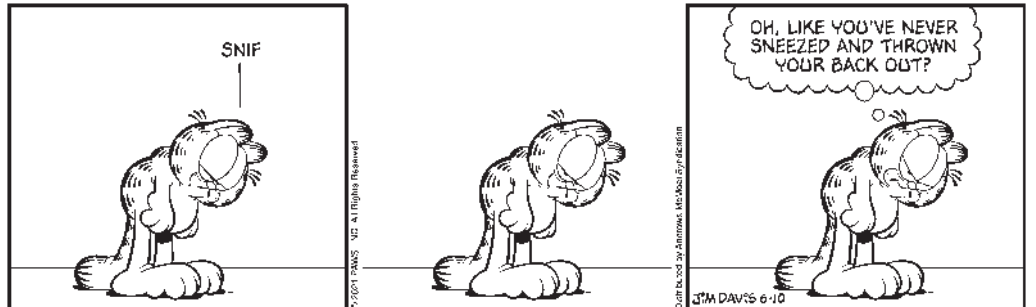
## Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



## Garfield®

By Jim Davis



## Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



## The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



## CROSSWORD

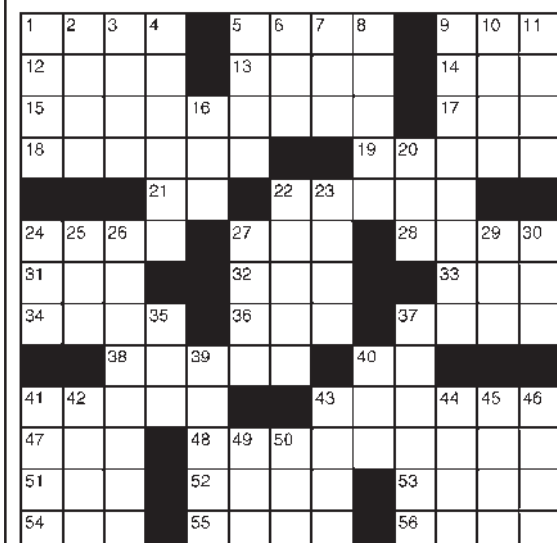
By Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS**
- 1 Dogpatch creator
- 5 Lip soother
- 9 Deep hole
- 12 Anti-oxidant berry
- 13 Curved molding
- 14 Altar promise
- 15 Knitter's stitches
- 17 Paris appellation
- 18 Large soup dish
- 19 Bracelet site
- 21 ICU worker
- 22 Ruminates
- 24 Scrooge cries
- 27 Cacophony
- 28 To boot
- 31 In the style of
- 32 Busy insect
- 33 Mineral suffix
- 34 Pickling herb
- DOWN**
- 1 Group of actors
- 2 Rights advocacy org.
- 3 Two of a kind
- 4 Killed musicians
- 5 German city
- 6 Previously
- 7 Allow
- 8 Mini-plateaus
- 9 Fire
- 10 Pedestal occupant
- 11 Heavy reading?
- 16 Understanding
- 20 PBS funder
- 22 Excavated
- 23 "Do — others ..."
- 24 Abysmal
- 25 Boxing legend
- 26 Lacy undergarment
- 27 Mend a sock
- 29 R-V link
- 30 British ref.
- 31 work
- 35 Illuminated
- 37 Razor sharpeners
- 39 Painter's stand
- 40 Lobbying gp.
- 41 Low-lying area
- 42 Detail
- 43 Raced
- 44 Egg
- 45 Sleuth Wolfe
- 46 Actor Kinnear
- 49 Fib
- 50 A Gershwin brother

Solution time: 24 mins.



Yesterday's answer 6-10



## STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

**CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:** Shane West, 43; DJ Qualls, 43; Kate Flannery, 57; Frankie Faison, 72.

**Happy Birthday:** Take a close look at what's happening around you before you decide to head in a direction that is full of uncertainty. Think matters through, be smart about the decisions you make and don't take on more than you can handle. Hone your skills and execute your plans with precision. Don't trust others to know what's best for you. Your numbers are 9, 12, 16, 23, 26, 32, 46.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19):** You'll have a chance to show what you are capable of doing. Set reasonable goals. Express your vision with enthusiasm and a solid plan. Question anyone who is disruptive or tries to lead you astray. Trust and believe in yourself. \*\*\*\*

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** A change of plans will throw you in an unexpected direction. Don't overreact; do what you do best and keep moving forward. Hard work will pay off in the end; complaining will stand in your way. A unique opportunity looks promising. \*\*\*

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** Finish what you start, regardless of what others do or say. Don't count on anyone but yourself when it comes to making a difference. Pick your friends and those you collaborate with carefully. Choose the path that makes you feel at ease. \*\*\*

**CANCER (June 21-July 22):** Be receptive to new or unusual concepts and see where it leads. Personal growth and enlightenment will foster new beginnings that are

not only lucrative, but energizing as well. Separate yourself from those offering false suggestions and promises. \*\*\*

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** Work alongside people who share your interests and concerns. Consider where your energy and money will make a difference and structure your plans accordingly. Don't let emotions take over. If someone offers a sob story, be ready with a valid response. \*\*\*\*

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** Professional matters will challenge you. Make adjustments to fit the changing playing field, and you will stay on top of your game. Control situations instead of letting them lead you. Be the driving force, not the one driven to distraction. \*\*

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** Hone your skills and put them to work in new and exciting ways. Make changes that will help you get ahead financially, emotionally and physically. Doing something you enjoy will lift your spirits and improve your health and well-being. \*\*\*\*\*

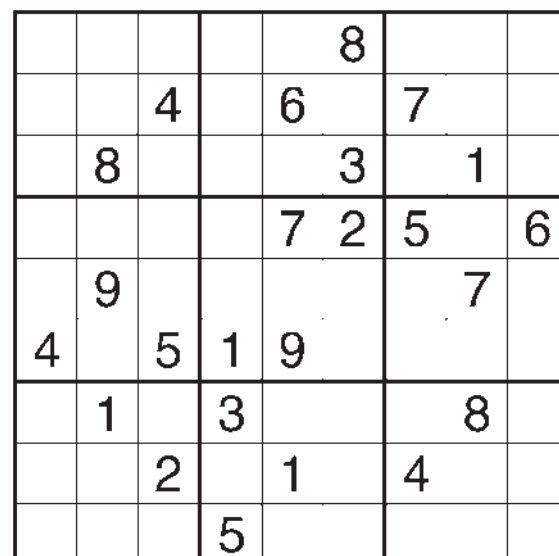
**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** Pay attention to what associates, friends and relatives are doing. Be ready to jump in and make a difference, and you'll change the way people view you. A meaningful relationship will take a positive turn that encourages personal stability. \*\*\*

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** A situation involving a friend, relative or partner will require monitoring. Verify the information you receive and be prepared to discuss matters that are confusing or questionable. Do your best to save or get involved in a joint venture. \*\*\*

## SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green



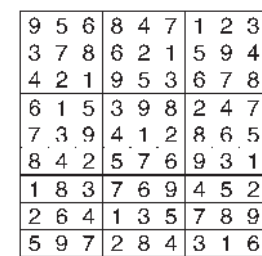
Difficulty Level ★★★

6/10

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer



Difficulty Level ★★★

## EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** Revisit your financial, business and investment options. Consider the best way to make your money grow. Rethink any changes you want to make at home or to your premises. An unnecessary expenditure will lead to stress. Focus on health and fitness. \*\*\*



**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** Listen to what others have to say, but do what feels right when it comes to situations that affect your home and family. Your priority is to do what's best for you and your loved ones, not outsiders. \*\*\*\*\*



**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** You'll face opposition. You are better off sitting back, listening carefully and mulling over your options. Don't feel guilty or obligated to get involved in something you don't agree with or want to do. Make your health and well-being your priorities. \*\*

**Birthday Baby:** You are wise, unique and innovative. You are playful and energetic.

☺: Avoid conflicts; work behind the scenes. ☹: You can accomplish, but don't rely on others. ☼: Focus and you'll reach your goals. ☼☼: Aim high; start new projects. ☼☼☼: Nothing can stop you; go for gold.

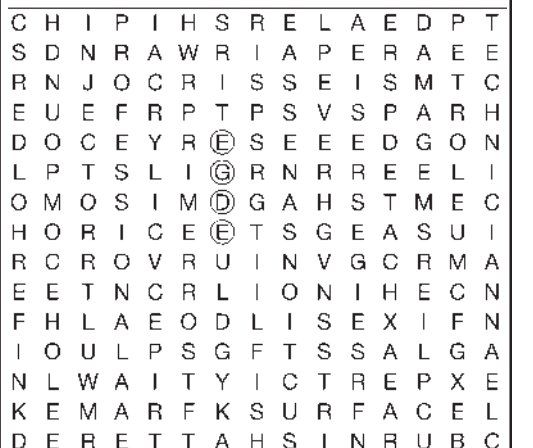
## WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

**HOW TO PLAY:** All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them. Circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

FIXING A BROKEN WINDSHIELD

Solution: 8 letters



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6/10

Acrylic, Burnish, Caulk, Chip, Clean, Compound, Damage, Dealership, Detach, Ding, Driver, Edge, Expert, Filler, Fix, Frame, Glass, Glove, Holders, Hole, Injector, Kits, Knife, Magnify, Parts, Passenger, Patch, Petroleum, Pliers, Polish, Primer, Professional, Repair, Shattered, Stress, Suction, Surface, Technician, Temperature, Wait, Wipers

Yesterday's Answer: Brilliant

The NEW Treasury 43 can be purchased online at www.WonderWordBooks.com, or call 1-800-642-6430.



# Donovan Mitchell scores 45, rallies Jazz past the Clippers



**SALT LAKE CITY** (AP)—Donovan Mitchell scored 45 points to lead the Utah Jazz to a 112-109 victory over the Los Angeles Clippers in Game 1 of their Western Conference semifinals series on Tuesday night.

Mitchell did most of his work in the second half, scoring 32 points to rally the Jazz from a double-digit deficit. Jordan Clarkson and Bojan Bogdanovic chipped in 18 points apiece. Mitchell and Clarkson combined for 12 3-pointers.

Kawhi Leonard scored 23 points to lead Los Angeles. Paul George chipped in 20 points and 11 rebounds. Luke Kennard added 18 points while making a team-high four 3-pointers.

Utah and Los Angeles will play Game 2 on Thursday in Salt Lake City.

The Jazz trailed by as many as 14 points before rallying and overtaking the Clippers in the fourth quarter. Utah took the lead for good on a 21-9 run bookended by 3-pointers from Bogdanovic. His second one gave the Jazz a 103-93 lead with 5:22 remaining.

George hit a 3-pointer to cut the deficit to 112-109 in the final minute. But Rudy Gobert blocked a potential game-tying shot from Marcus Morris with a second left to preserve the victory.



The Jazz were ice cold on offense during the first quarter. Utah jumped out to a 10-2 lead after Mitchell made a pair of 3-pointers. Over the next 8 1/2 minutes, the Jazz missed 20 consecutive shots. 15 of the 20 shots were contested by the Clippers. Utah started 3-of-25 from the field before Clarkson buried a corner three to break the ice.

Los Angeles capitalized on the lengthy drought with a 22-2 run. Kennard buried three 3-pointers to put the Clippers in front 24-12 late in the quarter.

Hot outside shooting buoyed Los Angeles in the second quarter and kept Utah at arm's length. The Clippers went 7-of-12 from 3-point range during the quarter. Four

of those baskets came during a stretch where they scored on six straight possessions, culminating in Rajon Rondo's outside basket, to extend their lead to 51-37.

Mitchell took over early in the third quarter. He scored four straight baskets to open the quarter and totaled 16 points in nine minutes. His ef-

fort helped the Jazz regain a 72-71 lead at the end of a 13-4 run. Mitchell scored back-to-back baskets to fuel the run and assisted the go-ahead layup from Royce O'Neale.

## Hawks 118, Hawks 102

In Philadelphia, Joel Embiid had 40 points and 13 rebounds, and Shake Milton

Los Angeles Clippers' Kawhi Leonard (2) and Marcus Morris Sr. (8) defend against Utah Jazz guard Donovan Mitchell (45) during the first half of Game 1 of a second-round NBA basketball playoff series Tuesday, June 8, 2021, in Salt Lake City.

scored 14 points in an electrifying stretch off the bench to lead the Philadelphia 76ers past the Atlanta Hawks 118-102 in Game 2 on Tuesday night and even their Eastern Conference semifinal.

Game 3 is Friday in Atlanta.

Milton was a sixth man who then lost his spot in the rotation and scored only 17 points over spotty action in six playoff games this season. Coach Doc Rivers kept the faith and Shake rattled the Hawks and helped the Sixers roll to a 14-0 run that blew the game open and sent a packed house into a frenzy.

Milton buried a long-distance 3 to send the Sixers into the fourth quarter with a 91-84 lead. He kept it going with a jumper early in the fourth that made it 95-84.

Embiid, Tobias Harris and Seth Curry steadied the top-seeded Sixers a game after they fell behind by 26 and were stunned in a Game 1 defeat.

Trae Young scored 21 points for the Hawks, Danilo Gallinari scored 21 and Kevin Huerter had 20.

**DENVER** (AP)—Nikola Jokic was selected with the 41st draft pick when he entered the NBA seven years ago.

Now, by overwhelming consensus, he's No. 1.

The Nuggets' big man was revealed Tuesday as the NBA's Most Valuable Player for 2020-21, making him by far the lowest draft pick ever to win the award. "The Joker" now has his name etched alongside the greatest players in league history, which surely seemed unlikely when he was that unheralded prospect out of Sombor, Serbia in 2014.

"To be honest, I didn't even think I would be in the NBA," Jokic said. "My goal when I started to play basketball back home, it was playing in Euroleague because that was kind of the closest top league to my country."

He did a little more.

Jokic was the runaway winner, getting 91 of the 101 first-place ballots cast — 100 of them from a global panel of sports-writers and broadcasters who cover the league, the other being an aggregate first-place ballot compiled from fan voting.

That fan vote was the outlier: It went to 2011 NBA MVP Derrick Rose of the New York Knicks, the only vote Rose got.

Philadelphia's Joel Embiid was second, Golden State's Stephen Curry was third, 2019

## Nikola Jokic becomes lowest draft pick ever to win MVP award

and 2020 MVP Giannis Antetokounmpo of Milwaukee was fourth and Phoenix's Chris Paul was fifth.

"It's a big accomplishment, but it's something that like I said to the guys, it's not just me," Jokic said. "I came here six years ago and I was growing, the organization was growing, the coaching staff was growing, the players next to me were growing."

"I couldn't do it by myself. It's an individual award, but it's the effort of everybody."

The previous record-holders for lowest draft picks who became MVPs were Steve Nash and Giannis Antetokounmpo, who were both chosen 15th overall. Antetokounmpo won the MVP award each of the last two seasons.

Greece now cedes the bragging rights to Serbia — the fifth nation outside of the U.S. to claim an MVP, joining Canada (Nash), Greece (Antetokounmpo), Nigeria (Hakeem Olajuwon) and Germany (Dirk Nowitzki).

The news came in a team meeting Tuesday, with NBA Commissioner Adam Silver appearing on a video screen to deliver the word.

"First of many," Nuggets coach Michael Malone said.



Denver Nuggets center Nikola Jokic (15) shoots over Phoenix Suns guard Devin Booker (1) during Game 1 of an NBA basketball second-round playoff series, Monday, June 7, 2021, in Phoenix.

He wore a T-shirt Tuesday night with some of the knocks that Jokic has heard over the years, including "Can't Jump," "Flopper" and "Poor Defender."

The back of the shirt told a different story: "MVP. Joke's On You," it said.

After the top five, the rest of the voting was Dallas' Luka Doncic, Portland's Damian Lillard, New York's Julius Randle, Rose, Utah's Rudy Gobert, Washington's Russell Westbrook, Philadelphia's Ben Simmons and, tying for 13th, was the Los Angeles Clippers' Kawhi Leonard, Brooklyn's James Harden and the Lakers' LeBron James.

James got one fifth-place vote — extending his streak to 18 years with at least one vote in the MVP race.

Jokic's rise was meteoric, but not totally unexpected after the way he played in recent years. Even Kobe Bryant, back in 2019, said he had challenged Jokic to fulfill his potential and win an MVP award.

Challenge accepted. Challenge met. And now Jokic has the trophy that Bryant won in 2008.

"MVP! BEST PLAYER IN THE NBA!" Nuggets teammate Will Barton posted on Instagram.

"I couldn't win it without

you guys," Jokic told his teammates when the word came.

Jokic had a league-high 60 double-doubles and added 16 triple-doubles—second-most in the NBA behind only triple-double king and former MVP Westbrook—this season. Jokic's scoring average jumped from 19.9 points per game last season to 26.4. He tied his career high with 10.8 rebounds per game and his average of 8.3 assists was just shy of Wilt Chamberlain's all-time season average (8.6) for a center.

He shot 56% from the field and 39% from 3-point range.

"The Denver Nuggets drafted me, it was an opportunity for me to become an NBA player," Jokic said. "I think I did a good job of using that opportunity."

A year after leading the Nuggets to the Western Conference Finals in the Walt Disney World bubble in Florida, Jokic steered his team through a trying season marked a rash of injuries, most notably to fellow star Jamal Murray, who tore his left ACL in April.

Amid all those injuries — not to mention a jampacked season where virtually everyone got some rest along the way — Jokic was a rare everyday player, a big man who

logged big minutes. He's the only player to start all of his team's regular-season games in the last two seasons, being on the floor for tip-off all 145 times. Others have also played in every game, but no one else has started them all.

Including playoffs, Jokic has logged 5,766 minutes in the last two seasons. That's nearly 300 more than anyone else; he's one of only six players to eclipse 5,000 minutes in that span.

Despite that ever-changing cast around him, Jokic guided Denver to the No. 3 playoff seed in the West. Behind Jokic, the Nuggets went 13-5 after Murray tore his ACL on April 12 and he led Denver past the Portland Trail Blazers in the first round of the playoffs.

And his numbers against the Blazers? Historic. He averaged 33 points and 10.5 rebounds on 53% shooting from the field, 43% from 3-point range and 92% from the free throw line — making him the first player in NBA history to average 30 points and 10 rebounds with the lofty benchmarks of 50% from the field, 40% from 3 and 90% from the foul line in a playoff series.

"Life's about little moments," Malone said late in the regular season. "And Nikola's got about 56 moments where he's shown he's the MVP."



# Pirates' Hayes misses 1B on homer, Dodgers beat Bucs, 5-3



PITTSBURGH (AP) —

Ke'Bryan Hayes hastily missed first base and was called out after hitting a first-inning homer, sending Walker Buehler on his way to seven scoreless innings as the Los Angeles Dodgers beat the Pittsburgh Pirates 5-3 Tuesday night.

The Pirates star rookie stung an opposite-field line drive in the first inning against Buehler that narrowly cleared the right-field wall, just inside the foul pole. Running hard and with his eyes on the ball, Hayes missed touching first base with his left foot by two or three inches and kept on going.

Los Angeles manager Dave Roberts challenged, and umpires overturned the call after a short video review.

Buehler (5-0) retired his last 13 batters and had two hits to raise his career batting average to .124. He allowed two hits, struck out two and walked one while throwing 93 pitches.

Pirates rookie JT Brubaker (4-5) shut out the Dodgers through four innings but did not make it out of the fifth, when Los Angeles scored three times.

Kenley Jansen came on to get the last out for his 13th save.

## Astros 7, Red Sox 1

In Boston, Carlos Correa and Yordan Alvarez homered to back Framer Valdez, and Houston ended Boston's five-game winning streak.

It was the Astros' fourth win in five games against Boston this season after taking three of four last week in Houston. The Astros have outscored the Red Sox 26-10 overall.

Valdez (2-0) allowed one run and five hits over 7 1/3 innings, striking out eight to pick up his second straight win over Boston. He held the Red Sox to one run in seven innings last week.

Boston starter Martín Pérez (4-3) lasted just two innings, allowing six runs off six hits. It was his shortest outing in 12 starts and stopped his streak of four consecutive wins.

## Cubs 7, Mets 1

In San Diego, Zach Davies allowed just one hit in six scoreless innings, Anthony Rizzo homered and drove in four runs, and Patrick Wisdom went deep again for Chicago.

Willson Contreras also homered for the Cubs, who have beaten the Padres four times in five games in a span of nine days.

Davies (3-3) was brilliant in shutting down the Padres for six innings. He allowed just a single to Fernando Tatis Jr. in the fourth inning, struck out four and walked two. The right-hander pitched for San



Pittsburgh Pirates' Ke'Bryan Hayes, left, slides past the second base bag and is tagged out by Los Angeles Dodgers second baseman Chris Taylor during the third inning of a baseball game in Pittsburgh, Tuesday, June 8, 2021.

Diego in 2020 before being traded to Chicago on Dec. 29 in the deal that sent Yu Darvish to the Padres.

Contreras started the power display with a solo shot off Dineelson Lamet (1-1) with one out in the fourth, his 10th.

## Orioles 10, Mets 3

In Baltimore, Maikel Franco became the sixth player to hit a home run into the second deck at Camden Yards, and Baltimore rolled to another high-scoring victory.

Cedric Mullins hit two of Baltimore's seven doubles, and the Orioles have won five of six after a 14-game losing streak. Pat Valaika doubled in his first two plate appearances after returning from the bereavement list.

Bruce Zimmermann (4-3) allowed a two-run homer in the first inning to Pete Alonso, but the Mets managed only one more hit off him in five innings. David Peterson (1-5) yielded four runs and eight hits in 2 2/3 innings.

Anthony Santander also homered for Baltimore, and Alonso added a second homer in the ninth.

## Braves 9, Phillies 5

In Philadelphia, Austin Riley, Ronald Acuña Jr. and William Contreras each hit a solo homer, and Atlanta rallied to beat Philadelphia.

J.T. Realmuto and Bryce Harper hit solo homers for Philadelphia. Aaron Nola allowed four runs and seven hits, striking out seven in five innings.

The Braves trailed 5-4 entering the eighth before Riley blasted a tying homer off Connor Brogdon (4-2). Dansby Swanson walked and Abraham Almonte followed with a single, chasing Brogdon. Contreras lined an RBI single off Sam Coonrod for a 6-5 lead.

Sean Newcomb (2-0) tossed a scoreless seventh for the win.

## White Sox 6, Blue Jays 1

In Chicago, Andrew Vaughn homered in the seventh inning and delivered a tiebreaking sacrifice fly in the eighth, helping Chicago beat Toronto.

Shut out by Robbie Ray for most of the game, Chicago got on the board on Vaughn's fifth homer and then broke it open with five runs in the eighth.

After Vaughn made it 2-1 with a bases-loaded fly ball to deep center against Trent Thornton (1-2), Adam Eaton drove in Yermín Mercedes with a pinch-hit single. Leury García added a two-run triple, and Tim Anderson capped the rally with a sac fly.

Garrett Crochet (2-2) got three outs for the win as the AL Central leaders moved a season-high 14 games over .500 at 37-23.

## Athletics 5, Diamondbacks 2

In Oakland, Calif., Chris Bassitt struck out six over seven strong innings to win his sixth consecutive decision, and Oakland sent Arizona to a franchise-record 18th straight road defeat.

Bassitt (6-2) walked one and allowed two runs on four hits. Christian Walker led off the second with a home run against the right-hander for a quick Arizona advantage. Bassitt is unbeaten since back-to-back losses to start the year.

Chad Pinder and Matt Chapman each hit RBI singles in a five-run fourth inning. Lou Trivino pitched the ninth for his ninth save.

Jed Lowrie singled leading off the fourth for Oakland's first hit against right-hander Jon Duplantier (0-2), chased by Sean Murphy's bases-loaded walk later in the inning as the A's eventually batted around.

## Angels 8, Royals 1

In Anaheim, Calif., Shohei Ohtani hit the longest homer of

his major league career in the first inning, and surging Los Angeles pounded five homers.

Ohtani's 17th homer of the season was a 470-foot shot deep into the outfield bleachers off Kansas City starter Kris Bubic (1-1). Ohtani then added a third-inning double that had an even higher exit velocity —112.6 mph off the bat, compared to 111.7 for his homer.

Max Stassi, José Iglesias and Justin Upton also homered for Los Angeles off Bubic. Taylor Ward added a two-run shot in the eighth.

Andrew Heaney (4-3) allowed six hits and a run while pitching into the seventh inning of the Angels' 10th win in 15 games.

## Rays 3, Nationals 1

In St. Petersburg, Fla., Tyler Glasnow (5-2) struck out 11 over seven strong innings and AL East-leading Tampa Bay beat Washington for its 20th win in 24 games.

Ryan Thompson took over for J.P. Feyereisen when the Nationals loaded the bases with one out in the eighth and struck out Ryan Zimmerman and Josh Bell. Diego Castillo worked the ninth to get his 10th save.

Washington starter Jon Lester was in trouble throughout his 3 2/3 innings but allowed just one run and four hits. The lefty had four walks and struck out two during a 91-pitch outing.

Mike Brosseau had an RBI double off Wander Suero (0-1), and Mike Zunino hit a run-scoring single against Sam Clay as the Rays went up 3-1 in the fifth.

## Giants 9, Rangers 4

In Arlington, Texas, Mike Tauchman hit a go-ahead grand slam, Brandon Crawford homered twice while setting the Giants' franchise record for most games as a shortstop and San Francisco beat slumping Texas.

San Francisco, whose 38-22 record is the best in baseball, loaded the bases in the eighth with a hit and two walks off Joely Rodríguez (1-3). Tauchman pulled a 3-1 liner into the first row of seats near the right field corner.

Joey Gallo homered for Texas before leaving the game in the eighth as a precaution because of right groin tightness. The Gold Glove right fielder also threw out a runner at the plate for the Rangers, who lost for the 12th time in 13 games.

Jose Alvarez (2-1), the fourth of six Giants pitchers, retired the only two batters he faced to end the seventh.

## Yankees 8, Twins 4

In Minneapolis, Gary Sánchez and Miguel Andújar homered, DJ LeMahieu had two hits and an RBI, and New York beat Minnesota to end a four-game skid.

Aaron Judge drove in two runs for New York, which had lost eight of its previous 10 and won despite going 2 for 15 with runners in scoring position and stranding 11.

Jonathan Loaisiga (5-2) pitched 1 1/3 perfect innings in relief of Yankees starter Jordan Montgomery.

Taylor Rogers (2-3) allowed two runs on three hits in the eighth for Minnesota.

## Indians 10, Cardinals 1

In St. Louis, José Ramírez homered and drove in four runs, leading Shane Bieber and Cleveland over St. Louis, which has lost six straight. St. Louis' skid is its longest since a seven-game slide in June 2017. Cleveland has won four of six.

Bieber (7-3) gave up one run and five hits in six innings, striking out five.

Carlos Martínez (3-6) allowed five runs and seven hits, including Ramírez's three-run homer, in four innings. In his previous outing, he was

## Brewers 5, Reds 1

In Cincinnati, Avisail García homered and singled home another run and streaking Milwaukee beat Cincinnati for its fifth straight win.

The NL Central-leading Brewers were coming off a four-game sweep of Arizona and have won 10 of their last 11. Adrian Houser (4-5) pitched 5 1/3 innings of one-run ball, and the Brewers bullpen shut down Cincinnati the rest of the way.

Reds starter Sonny Gray sailed through three innings, giving up two hits and striking out five, before injuring his leg warming up for the fourth. Sean Doolittle came on for the Reds, and García hit his second pitch into the left-field seats for his 12th homer.

The Brewers pushed across another run in the fifth when Luis Urias walked, advanced to third on a pair of wild pitches by Ryan Hendrix (2-1) and scored on a double-play grounder.

## Tigers 5, Mariners 3

In Detroit, Eric Haase hit a two-run homer in the first inning and Detroit beat Seattle.

Matthew Boyd (3-6) allowed an unearned run, six hits and a walk over six innings. Daniel Norris inherited the bases loaded with no outs in the eighth and limited Seattle to two runs. Jose Cisnero pitched the ninth, striking out two and walking one for his second save in three chances.

Marco Gonzales (1-4) gave up four runs and five hits over four innings in his second start since coming back from a strained left forearm.

## Marlins 6, Rockies 2

In Miami, Pablo Lopez took advantage of an extra day of rest by allowing only two runs in a career-best eight innings. Corey Dickerson hit a two-run triple and Miami opened a homestand by beating Colorado.

Lopez (2-3) struck out eight and allowed five hits, sharp the whole way after getting a planned additional day of rest. Dickerson's triple highlighted a four-run third for Miami, which tacked on two more in the seventh.

Antonio Senzatela (2-6) allowed nine hits and four runs in six innings, striking out eight and walking one.



# Tsitsipas beats Medvedev, will face Zverev in French Open SF

PARIS (AP)—Stefanos Tsitsipas and Alexander Zverev both have been viewed as potential future stars of tennis. Both have come close to Grand Slam titles.

Now the pair of 20-somethings will meet each other for a berth in the French Open final after straight-set quarterfinal victories Tuesday. It will be the youngest matchup in the men's semifinals at Roland Garros since a couple of guys named Rafael Nadal and Novak Djokovic met in 2008.

The No. 5-seeded Tsitsipas reached his fourth major semifinal — and third in a row — by upending No. 2 Daniil Medvedev 6-3, 7-6 (3), 7-5 at Court Philippe Chatrier in the last no-spectator night session of this year's tournament.

"I feel privileged that I'm in that position, and I feel obviously I've put in a lot of daily hard work (that) has been a key element of me being here," Tsitsipas said. "But, you know, my ego tells me I want more."

He escaped two set points held by two-time Slam runner-up Medvedev at 5-4 in the second, but otherwise required only slightly more work than was demanded of 2020 U.S. Open



AP  
Stefanos Tsitsipas of Greece celebrates after defeating Russia's Daniil Medvedev during their quarterfinal match of the French Open tennis tournament at the Roland Garros stadium Tuesday, June 8, 2021 in Paris.

hand volley winner to close out that set and was on his way to his second win in eight career meetings against Medvedev.

"To be honest, the biggest difference was the surface," Medvedev said, "but when I say this, I finally do not say it in a way, 'Oh, I cannot play on clay! Mamma mia!' or whatever. It's just that his shots were better on clay."

While Medvedev briefly led by a break in the third, Tsitsipas pulled even, then broke after being down 40-love in the last game. He closed his victory with a passing shot winner off a return when Medvedev charged the net behind an underarm serve on match point.

"Didn't work out at all," Medvedev said.

Tsitsipas' take? He called it "a very millennial shot."

The quarterfinals on the top half of the men's bracket are Wednesday: Djokovic vs. Matteo Berrettini, and 13-time champion Nadal vs. Diego Schwartzman.

In the women's quarterfinals Tuesday, No. 31 seed Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova of Russia and 85th-ranked Tamara Zidansek of Slovenia each earned her first berth in a major semifinal.

Pavlyuchenkova entered the day with an 0-6 record in Slam quarterfinals but edged her doubles partner Elena Rybakina 6-7 (2), 6-2, 9-7. Zidansek got past No. 33 seed Paula Badosa 7-5, 4-6, 8-6.

would like to participate must email NMIVA president Sonia Quan at president@nmi-volleyball.org by Wednesday, June 16, as students will need their parent or guardian to sign a liability waiver for the camp.

sits at No. 6 overall.

Devin Yumul continues to hold the lead in the class after earning 47 points to bump him up to a 237. Even though Yumul gained the same amount of points as Iakopo, Yumul placed second in the second heat, costing him first place.

Vicente Palacios finished in the Top 3 two Sundays ago to earn 40 points, bringing him up to a 132 also putting him at fourth place overall.

Harley Susulin, despite placing fourth last May 30, still holds second place in overall standings with a score of 194.

finalist Zverev in his 6-4, 6-1, 6-1 victory over 46th-ranked Alejandro Davidovich Fokina.

That put No. 6 Zverev in his third career Slam semifinal, first in Paris.

Tsitsipas is a 22-year-old from Greece. Zverev is a

24-year-old from Germany. Both have won Masters 1000 titles on red clay this year. Both have won the season-ending ATP Finals. Both intend to — and, truthfully, are expected to — claim one of the four biggest prizes in their sport.

"Obviously, the Grand Slams are the tournaments that we want to win the most," Zverev said. "Before, maybe, the last few years, I was putting too much pressure on myself. ... Before Medvedev and Tsitsipas arrived, I was seen as this guy that was going to all of a sudden take over the tennis world."

Added Zverev: "I was putting pressure on myself, as well. I was not very patient with myself, which I feel like now, maybe, I learned how to deal with the situation a little bit better."

He showed that quality at a

key juncture Tuesday.

Zverev did not want to believe that Davidovich Fokina had saved a break point with a shot that landed on — or was it merely near? — a line in the fourth game.

Zverev crouched down near the mark on the red clay and engaged in a bit of an argument with chair umpire Alison Hughes, repeatedly saying, "No!" and then "How?"

Hughes, whose call was backed up by an unofficial video rendering shown on TV, didn't budge, and Zverev quickly lost that game, then the next one, too, to fall briefly behind. Could have been the start of an unraveling.

Instead, Zverev grabbed 16 of the remaining 19 games.

"I'm maybe a little bit calmer at the tournaments,"

he said. "But the end goal hasn't changed."

For Tsitsipas, who goes into Friday with an 0-3 mark in Slam semifinals, the key moment came late in the second set.

Medvedev, who suddenly found his footing on clay this year after arriving in Paris with an 1-4 career record at the

French Open, sort of snapped to and made things interesting. Indeed, Medvedev made so much headway that he held a pair of set points after Tsitsipas dumped an overhead into the net and was forced to serve at 15-40 while trailing 5-4.

But Medvedev let Tsitsipas out of the predicament with a bad return of a second serve, followed by a flubbed forehand, and soon enough it was 5-all.

Less than 15 minutes later, Tsitsipas hit a swinging fore-



## TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

### MLB STANDINGS

#### AMERICAN LEAGUE

##### East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Tampa Bay	39	23	.629	—
Boston	37	24	.607	1½
New York	32	29	.525	6½
Toronto	30	28	.517	7
Baltimore	22	38	.367	16

##### Central Division

Chicago	37	23	.617	—
Cleveland	32	26	.552	4
Kansas City	29	30	.492	7½
Detroit	25	35	.417	12
Minnesota	24	36	.400	13

##### West Division

Oakland	36	26	.581	—
Houston	34	26	.567	1
Seattle	30	32	.484	6
Los Angeles	29	32	.475	6½
Texas	23	39	.371	13

#### NATIONAL LEAGUE

##### East Division

New York	29	24	.547	—
Atlanta	29	29	.500	2½
Philadelphia	28	31	.475	4
Miami	26	34	.433	6½
Washington	24	33	.421	7

##### Central Division

Milwaukee	34	26	.567	—
Chicago	34	27	.557	½
St. Louis	31	30	.508	3½
Cincinnati	28	30	.483	5
Pittsburgh	23	36	.390	10½

##### West Division

San Francisco	38	22	.633	—
San Diego	37	26	.587	2½
Los Angeles	35	25	.583	3
Colorado	24	37	.393	14½
Arizona	20	42	.323	19

### NBA LEADERS

#### Scoring

	G	FG	FT	PTS	AVG
Doncic, DAL	7	96	27	250	35.7
Lillard, POR	6	62	47	206	34.3
Durant, BKN	7	77	51	224	32.0
Mitchell, UTA	5	52	35	159	31.8
Jokic, DEN	7	85	33	220	31.4
Leonard, LAC	8	91	48	248	31.0
Tatum, BOS	5	47	45	153	30.6
Morant, MEM	5	55	31	151	30.2
Beal, WAS	5	56	31	150	30.0
Embiid, PHI	6	58	50	175	29.2
Young, ATL	7	66	51	202	28.9
Booker, PHO	7	67	49	199	28.4
Brooks, MEM	5	50	21	129	25.8
Irving, BKN	7	63	24	171	24.4
Antetokounmpo, MIL	6	60	23	146	24.3
Harris, PHI	7	68	22	167	23.9
James, LAL	6	54	14	140	23.3
Harden, BKN	6	40	40	139	23.2
George, LAC	8	59	49	185	23.1
McCollum, POR	6	50	10	124	20.7

#### FG Percentage

	FG	FGA	PCT
Gafford, WAS	22	26	.846
Ayton, PHO	52	67	.776
Gobert, UTA	37	51	.725
Simmons, PHI	41	60	.683
Capela, ATL	32	49	.653
Hachimura, WAS	29	47	.617

Leonard, LAC	91	153	.595
Embiid, PHI	58	98	.592
Thompson, BOS	20	34	.588
Lopez, MIL	36	62	.581

#### Rebounds

	G	OFF	DEF	TOT	AVG
Antetokounmpo, MIL	6	15	67	82	13.7
Gobert, UTA	6	24	53	77	12.8
Capela, ATL	7	20	65	85	12.1
Randle, NY	5	11	47	58	11.6
Drummond, LAL	5	19	36	55	11.0
Ayton, PHO	7	21	53	74	10.6
Westbrook, WAS	5	14	38	52	10.4
Nurkic, POR	6	18	44	62	10.3
Jokic, DEN	7	21	51	72	10.3
Thompson, BOS	5	29	20	49	9.8

#### Assists

	G	AST	AVG
Westbrook, WAS	5	59	11.8
Doncic, DAL	7	72	10.3
Lillard, POR	6	61	10.2
Young, ATL	7	70	10.0
Simmons, PHI	7	63	9.0
Harden, BKN	6	53	8.8
Conley, UTA	5	43	8.6
Morant, MEM	5	41	8.2
Paul, PHO	7	57	8.1
Holiday, MIL	6	48	8.0

## NMIVA

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will be allowing individuals ages 14 to 18 to join.

The schedule will be as follows: Monday, NMSA Con-

## 'THE CRANK'

From Page 20

involved in a vehicular collision involving at least four other vehicles along the 405 Freeway in Los Angeles.

"Earlier today, Frank and I were involved in a multiple car accident on the 405 Freeway on our way back from Redondo Beach en route to Irvine, California. We are OK but the other four vehicles didn't fare so well," he said.

It was only after Camacho was transported to the Los Alamitos Medical Center that Camacho reported pain in his shoulder, head, and neck, that

ference Room, from 6:30pm to 9pm for coaches; Tuesday, Agape Gymnasium, from 6:30pm to 8pm for coaches; Wednesday, possible one-on-one sessions with Rabago or break; Thursday, Agape Gym-

prompted medical staff to conduct an X-ray and a CT Scan, Alvarez said.

"Frank had to be transported by ambulance to the Los Alamitos Medical Center nearby where the medical staff did X-rays and a CT Scan after complaining of head, shoulder, and neck pain," he said.

According to various mixed marital arts media outlets, as a result of UFC lightweight veteran Camacho being forced to withdraw from his upcoming UFC 263 showdown against Matt Frevola, matchmakers have called upon Terrence McKinney to fill the now open spot for this weekend's event.

nasium, from 6:30pm to 8pm for coaches and players; and Friday, Agape Gymnasium, from 7pm to 9pm for coaches and players.

Coaches who will be attending and have any players that

## BORJA

From Page 20

pleted the Top 3 during the fifth series race to earn him 38 points. The win bumped him up to a 131 but he still holds seventh place overall.

Third place overall Marianas Alvarez lagged behind during the fifth leg of the series, placing eighth to earn her 20 points. She currently holds her spot in the standings with a score of 178.

Meanwhile in the Mini 1, Stanley Jr. Iakopo finished the fifth series race at first place, earning him 47 points to bring him up to 106. He currently





**Donovan Mitchell scores 45, rallies Jazz past the Clippers**

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# Saipan Tribune Sports

**Tsitsipas beats Medvedev, will face Zverev in French Open SF**

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**20** THURSDAY, JUNE 10, 2021

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

## 'The Crank' out of UFC 263

By **KIMBERLY B. ESMORES**  
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REPORTER

A multiple-vehicle collision yesterday morning has resulted in the withdrawal of Frank "The Crank" Camacho from the upcoming Ultimate Fighting Championship 263 Figueiredo vs Moreno 2 on June 12.

In a statement from Camacho, although grateful to have walked away from the incident in one piece, he is heartbroken that he has to withdraw from the fight set for this coming Saturday.

"Unfortunately, I was in a serious multi-vehicle collision this morning. I'm a little beat up from the accident, and I'm absolutely heartbroken to have to withdraw from my fight Saturday at UFC 263, but, I'm very grateful



to walk away from the accident in one piece, and I know this is just a detour in my fighting career," he said.

Camacho, who was set to return to the ring after one year away from fighting as a result of the COVID-19, said he apologizes for the any inconvenience the accident has brought to UFC.

"I'd like to extend my apologies for the inconvenience this accident has brought upon

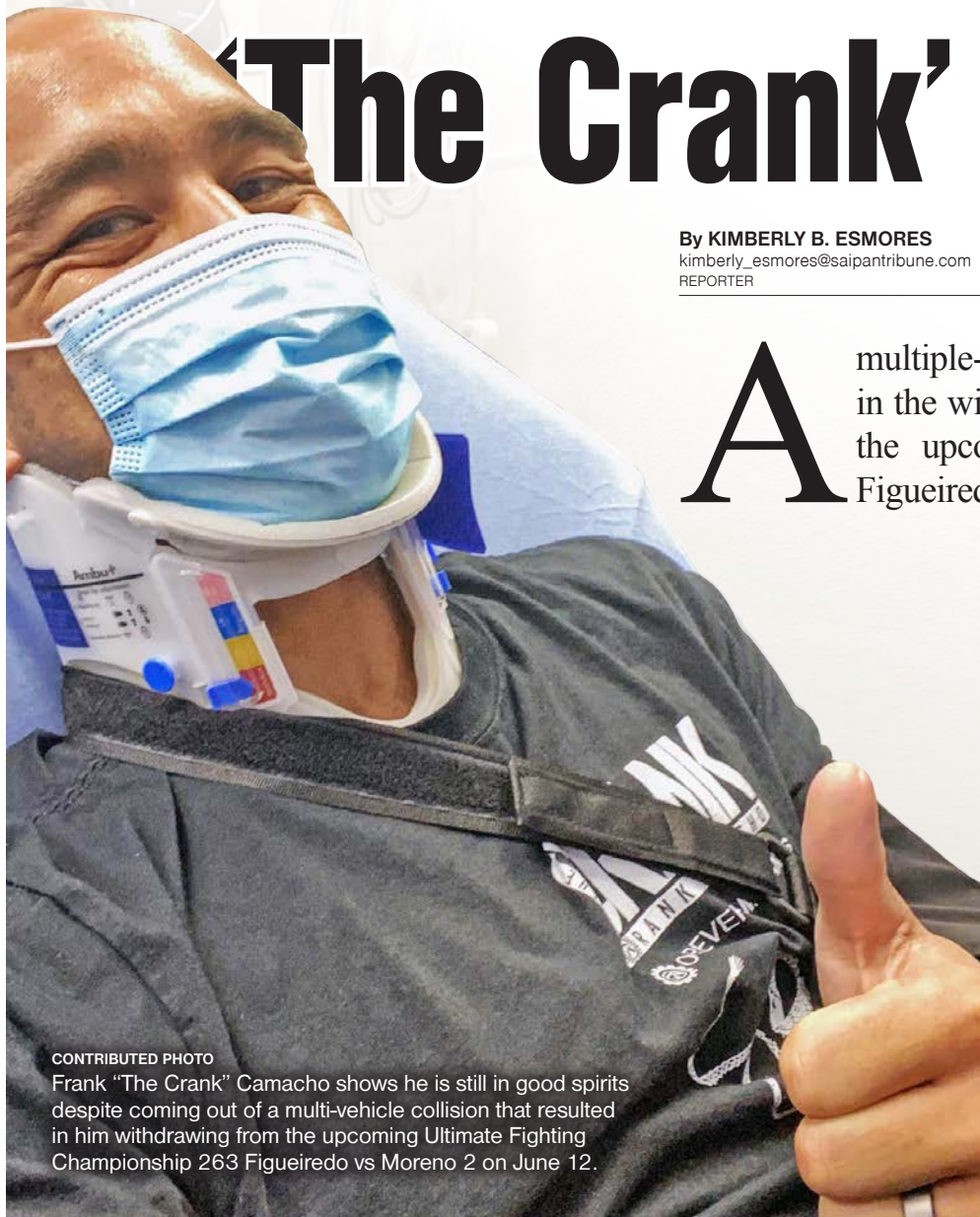
my opponent and the UFC, and my wife, Sarah, and I would like to sincerely thank everyone for their concern and support at this time," he said.

According to updates from Cuki Alvarez, Camacho's cornerman and fellow victim in the accident, herniation on Camacho's C7 and T1 spine as a result of the accident was ultimately the reason for Camacho's withdrawal from the event.

"Test results from the MRI determined and confirmed herniation on [Camacho's] C7 and T1 spine and it's because of this that Frank is forced to withdraw from his bout in UFC 263," he said.

Alvarez said in the early hours of June 8, Los Angeles time, he and Camacho were

**See 'THE CRANK' on Page 19**



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Frank "The Crank" Camacho shows he is still in good spirits despite coming out of a multi-vehicle collision that resulted in him withdrawing from the upcoming Ultimate Fighting Championship 263 Figueiredo vs Moreno 2 on June 12.

## NMIVA to host coaching clinics next week

By **KIMBERLY B. ESMORES**  
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REPORTER



The Northern Marianas Islands Volleyball Association, through FIVB Level III certified coach and Oceania Sports Education master educator Mike Rabago, will be hosting a week-long clinic for coaches.

Rabago will be back next

week to continue coaching clinics on behalf of NMIVA beginning on Monday and concluding on Friday at the Northern Marianas Sports Association conference room at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium and the Agape School Gymnasium.

The event, which is free for interested coaches and players, is a great opportunity to gain more knowledge from a

very experienced and multi-titled coach.

All the sessions will be in the evenings with the first two days, June 14 and 15, consisting of coaching instruction, practice planning, and more. The following two days will be an implementation of a player camp for girls and boys, U16 and U18. NMIVA

**See NMIVA on Page 19**



MARK RABAGO

FIVB Level III certified coach and Oceania Sports Education master educator Mike Rabago talks to volleyball players and coaches during his most recent clinic on Saipan organized by the Northern Marianas Islands Volleyball Association.

## Borja strengthens hold on Mini ATV lead



JOSEPH CHIN

Theresa Borja continues to dominate the Mini ATV Class while also strengthening her hold on the top spot of the Marianas Racing Association's 2021 Point Series Race held at the Cowtown Raceway Park in Marpi.

By **KIMBERLY B. ESMORES**  
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REPORTER



Theresa Borja continues to dominate the Mini ATV Class while also strengthening her hold on the top spot of the Marianas Racing Association's 2021 Point Series Race held at the Cowtown Raceway Park in Marpi.

Borja, who holds a pristine record throughout the last four series races, continues to conquer her foes, placing first during the fifth series race last May 30 to gain her another 50 points, bringing

her score up to a perfect 250.

Coming in at second place last May 30 was Jesus Borja, earning him 44 points to bring him up to a 218. He also holds second place overall and still has a good chance of possibly overpowering Borja at just 32 points behind.

Franchesca Yumul, who just started the series two Sundays ago, finished in the Top 3 during the fifth leg of the series to gain 40 points, putting her at No. 5 in the overall standings.

Melvin Reyes was third overall despite placing fourth place during the fifth series

race, earning him 18 points to bring his score up to 174.

Like Borja, Michael Camacho also remains undefeated in the Mini 2 Class of the MRA series after placing first during its fifth leg to earn him 50 points. He also currently holds an overall score of 250.

Ethan Yumul has narrowed the gap but is still in second after placing runner-up two Sundays ago to earn him 50 points, putting him just 30 points behind Camacho at 220.

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**See BORJA on Page 19**